

## TODAY

## INSIDE NEWS

### Fisher v. UT

UT will submit its legal briefs for Fisher v. University of Texas on Aug. 6, a case brought forward by rejected UT applicant Abigail Fisher who claims she was denied admission because she is white. The Daily Texan asks two incoming students if they felt race played a part in their admission, while a current student reminisces about his first days on campus. [Page 8](#)

### Textbooks

Students taking chemistry and physics intro courses can scratch off a book from their shopping list. Some professors are not requiring students to buy a specific textbook for class and say it's now up to students to pick the resource best suited to their needs. [Page 9](#)

### Flashing Lights

Downtown Austin will see more red and blue lights around its streets this fall, and not from the venues. Compared to last year, downtown Austin crime has increased. [Page 10](#)

## EDITOR'S NOTE

The Texan is on vacation for the rest of the summer — we resume printing Wednesday, August 29, the first day of class. Also starting Aug. 29 are tryouts for entry level positions in all departments: news, sports, life & arts, copy, design, photography/multimedia and web. We will also be looking for comics artists and illustrators along with columnists for our opinion page. Applications are available in our office in the Hearst Student Media building or online. UT students from any major are encouraged to apply. — *Aleksander Chan, The Daily Texan Managing Editor*

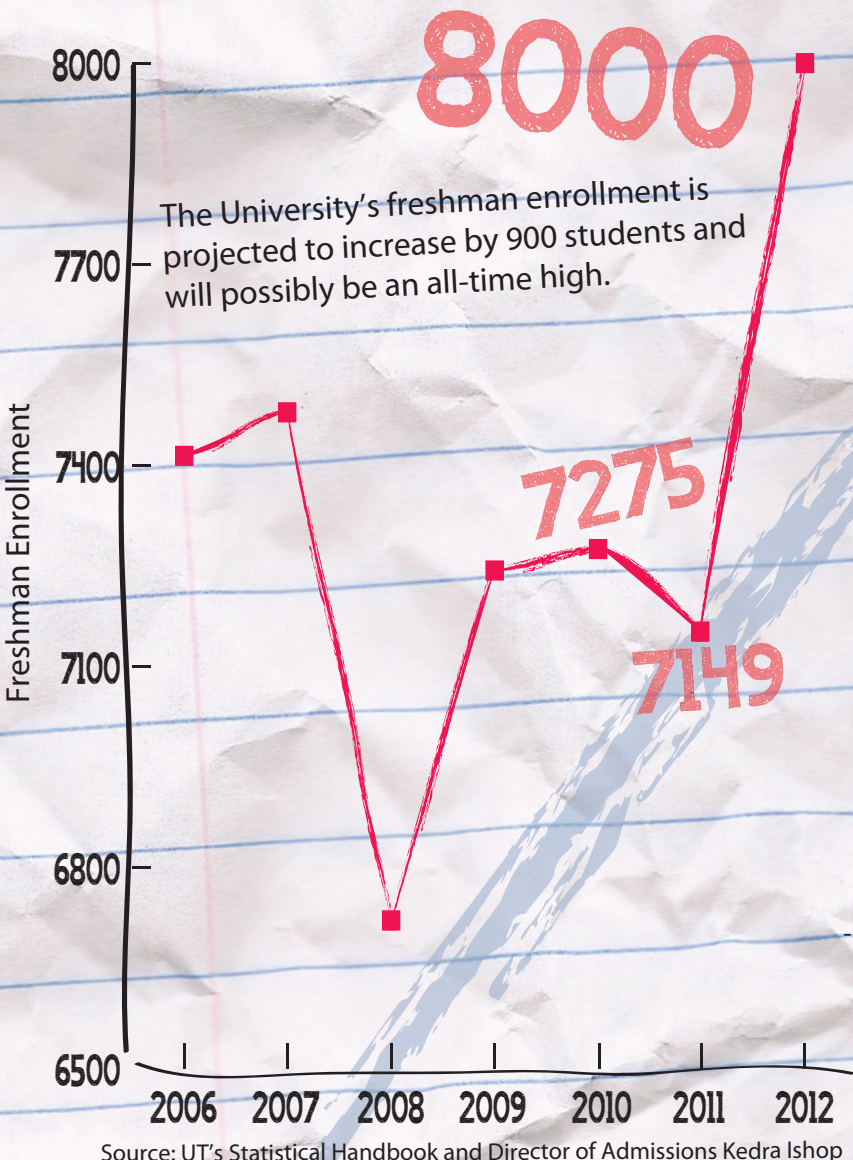
## Quote to note

“We’re basically upper middle-class. I’m not a minority. I pretty much only qualify for academic scholarships, and even those take into account the need. It was kind of disappointing at the beginning because even though I worked really hard, it didn’t pay off.”

— *Morgan Bond, incoming RTF freshman*

NEWS PAGE 9

# Get Ready



## UT reallocates resources for larger freshman class

By Bobby Blanchard

Brace yourselves — the freshmen are coming. University officials have spent the summer months preparing for what might be its largest incoming freshman class on record and what could be the second largest overall enrollment in UT history. By adding more sections, lecturers, advisors and First-Year Interest Group programs, or programs that place freshmen into small groups to support their academic performance, University officials said they are confident that the school is ready for the freshmen class. Kedra Ishop, vice provost and director of admissions, said estimates for the incoming freshman class are currently around 8,000 students. This is an approximate 900-student increase from last year's 7,149 students. Currently, the year 2002 holds the title for most first-time enrolled freshmen with 7,935 students enrolled as first-time freshmen and 8,419 students classified as freshmen. The University will not know if it broke its past records until the twelfth class day, when enrollment is officially counted. “It’s too close to call,” Ishop said in an email, speculating whether this entering freshman class would be the University’s largest. “Our largest prior class was just over 7,900. So it could be.” Although the University says it is ready for this incoming freshman class, the increased enrollment will place a strain on the University for years to come. Professor William Cunningham, who was president of the University from 1985 to 1992, faced similar issues because of enrollment growth in 1988 when enrollment reached an all-time high. Cunningham compared the problem to a bubble. “If you have a problem in freshman courses this year, then next year you will have a problem in sophomore courses,” Cunningham said. “So you will have to put some more resources into sophomore courses, but UT officials know that. It’s not rocket science.” David Laude, senior vice provost for enrollment and graduation management, said the University will have to add sections

**FRESHMAN** continues on page 2

### WHERE TO CRAM BY ALEX NIVER RAISCH

*It can be hard to study in one place. Considering studying is a big part of the college experience, moving to a new place every once in a while may help keep your eyes open for a longer period.*



1. Life Science Library. Located in the Main Building on the second floor, many refer to it as the “Harry Potter” library because of its intricate ceiling designs. Come here for a robust room with high ceilings that won’t make you feel cramped while you cram.
2. Bennu Coffee. It can be hard to find a good 24-hour coffee shop to help you through an all-nighter. Located across Interstate Highway 35 at 2001 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, it has a wide variety of food, including pizza, salads and tacos.
3. Walter Geology Library. Go to the Jackson Geological Sciences Building and take the elevator up two floors to find this spot. Just don’t go there if you’re in the quiet-study mood: the librarians warn it can sometimes be a little loud.
4. Lawn behind Anna Hiss Gym. A large lawn complete with shade and benches sits right behind Anna Hiss Gym. It has the historic look of the old university architecture and puts you in a cultured mind-set to give you new ideas for that paper.
5. The Student Activity Center’s top floor. What makes this study spot great is its proximity to the building’s food court. With its pillows and beautiful second-story view, more than a few students have been known to take a much-needed nap.
6. The Texas Union. While it might be hard to stay in one spot, the Union provides all studying necessities. Also, if you’re hungry or need a shot of caffeine, there is a Starbucks and a Wendy’s in the building, among other restaurants.
7. Jester Residence Hall’s Second Floor. This place provides many different areas to study. The hallway has plenty of desks and the Gallery of Texas Cultures give you table space for group projects and a piano. If you’re lucky, you may walk in on someone playing an age-old melody.
8. San Jacinto Lounge. Located in the San Jacinto Residence Hall, this lounge is about as classy as you can get. Leather chairs and a nice baby grand piano make for one of the sharpest study spots on campus.
9. Starbucks. While not unique to Austin, the Starbucks on 24th and 38th streets are perfect spots for anyone wanting to sip a nice Peppermint Mocha or your drink of choice while studying for a test.
10. University Teaching Center. What the UTC lacks in interior design, it makes up for in silence. It has comfy chairs and is sure to be deserted after 5 p.m., so don’t forget this place for an out-of-the-norm study spot.

### SECRET SERVICES BY JOAN VINSON

*With 40 acres and more than 50,000 enrolled, UT students seem to fall into a routine and allow many services to fly under the radar. Take advantage of what UT has to offer by using and attending some of the following services.*



1. While on campus, students can print documents from their own computer to a printer in any of the many labs on campus. Visit the Information Technology Services website for installation instructions.
2. ITS offers students, faculty and staff the ability to use a laptop for 24-hour and weekend checkout periods. There is no cost to rent the Dell and Apple laptops available, although late fees do apply.
3. The Fine Arts Library is home to more than books. Feature films, television shows, DVDs and other audio materials are also available. Before heading to a Redbox, save money and stop by.
4. The UT Concho Community Garden, located at 2108 Concho Street, is holding open workdays every Wednesday and Sunday until Aug. 15. Make some friends while learning about various gardening practices. Harvested vegetables are usually ripe and ready for volunteers to take home.
5. The Department of Theatre and Dance 2012-2013 Subscription Series tickets are now on sale in the F. Loren Winship Drama Building 1.142. Plays including “The Cataract,” “The Scarlet Letter” and “The Edge of Peace” will be held starting in October.
6. Visit the Undergraduate Writing Center to receive help deciding on a topic, researching, using proper grammar and citing sources. Located in the Flawn Academic Center, the UWC offers free individualized help by appointment or on a drop-in basis.
7. Keep an eye out for one of the many free newspapers, including The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal, that the McCombs School of Business leaves for faculty and staff. They can be found in the main entrance of the Graduate School of Business Building.
8. School can overwhelm the mind and body — learn how to cope with this stress at the MindBody Lab. Located on the fifth floor of the Student Services Building, the lab offers students cushioned chairs, blankets and resources to improve emotional and physical health.
9. Having trouble with mathematics, physics or chemistry concepts? The Sanger Learning Center offers drop-in tutoring on these courses in Jester 315. Drop-in tutoring is free and available to all students.
10. Download The University of Texas at Austin iPhone App to search for news, keep up with sports news and scores, navigate the campus, check Blackboard, search the directory and simply remain connected with the UT community. The app is available in the Apple App Store.

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NEWS BRIEFLY

Saudi Arabia sends first female athlete to Olympics

CAIRO — There was no way Alaa al-Mizyen, a 22-year-old Saudi investment consultant, was missing this Olympic match. While her family slept in late Friday morning, she alone was awake and glued to the TV.

It was, after all, her first ever opportunity to cheer a Saudi woman in the world's biggest sporting event.

The participation of Saudi judo player Wojdan Ali Seraj Abdulrahim Shahrkhani had raised the scorn of the kingdom's ultraconservative Islamic clerics, who said she was dishonoring herself by fighting in front of men, including the male referee and judges. And the match Friday was a swift defeat for Shahrkhani: The teenager was thrown by her Puerto Rican opponent in just over a minute.

But for her supporters, it was an enduring, landmark victory. Shahrkhani was taking a stand against culture and customs that have little to do with Islam but are used to justify hardline interpretations that restrict women, al-Mizyen said.

"There is a very fine line between religion and culture and customs. People are holding so tightly to customs and traditions and using Islam to defend them," she said.

The judo match wasn't shown live on Saudi state TV or many other Saudi-owned satellite channels, though it was unclear if that was because of the controversy. Other state-owned stations in the region focused instead on other athletes or regional crises. But the match was shown on several Arab satellite sports channels.

— The Associated Press

Mars rover executes new maneuvers

By Alicia Change  
Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — NASA's most high-tech Mars rover on Sunday zeroed in on the red planet where it will attempt a tricky celestial gymnastics routine during a "seven minutes of terror" plummet through the atmosphere.

The Curiosity rover was poised to hit the top of the Martian atmosphere at 13,000 mph. If all goes according to script, it will be slowly lowered by cables inside a massive crater in the final few seconds.

NASA was ready for the "Super Bowl of planetary exploration," said Doug McCuistion, head of the Mars exploration program at NASA headquarters.

"We score and win or we don't score and we don't win," said McCuistion.

If all goes well, mission control at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory should hear a signal at 10:31 p.m. Pacific. The space agency warned that confirmation could take longer if an orbiting spacecraft that's supposed to listen for Curiosity during the descent is not in the right place.

Curiosity's trajectory was so accurate that engineers decided to wave off a last chance to tweak its position before atmosphere entry.

"We're ready to head in," said mission manager Brian Portock.

Not ones to tempt fate, flight controllers planned to break out the "good luck" peanuts before Curiosity takes the plunge as part of a long-running tradition.

One scientist who can relate to the building anxiety is Cornell University planetary scientist Steve Squyres, who headed NASA's last successful rover mission in 2004.

This time around, Squyres has a supporting role and planned to view the landing with other researchers in the "science bullpen."

"Landing on Mars is always a



Damian Dovarganes | Associated Press

Nick Lam, data controller, monitoring the Mars rover Curiosity from the Deep Space Network's control room at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. NASA's Curiosity rover is zooming toward Mars. With about a day to go until a landing attempt, the space agency says the nuclear-powered rover appears on course.

nerve-racking thing. You're never going to get relaxed about something like landing a spacecraft on Mars," said Squyres.

Sunday's touchdown attempt was especially intense because NASA is testing a brand new landing technique. Due to the communication delay between Mars and Earth, Curiosity will be on autopilot. There's also extra pressure because budget woes have forced NASA to rejigger its Mars exploration roadmap.

"There's nothing in the pipeline" beyond the planned launch of a Mars orbiter in 2013, said former NASA Mars czar Scott Hubbard, who teaches at Stanford University.

Curiosity was launched to study whether the Martian environment ever had conditions suitable for microbial life.

The voyage to Mars took over eight months and spanned 352 million miles. The trickiest part

of the journey? The landing. Because Curiosity weighs nearly a ton, engineers drummed up a new and more controlled way to set the rover down.

The last Mars rovers, twins Spirit and Opportunity, were cocooned in air bags and bounced to a stop in 2004.

The plans for Curiosity called for a series of braking tricks, similar to those used by the space shuttle, and a supersonic parachute to slow it down. Next: Ditch the heat shield used for the fiery descent.

And in a new twist, engineers came up with a way to lower the rover by cable from a hovering rocket-powered backpack. At touchdown, the cords cut and the rocket stage crashes a distance away.

The nuclear-powered Curiosity, the size of a small car, is packed with scientific tools, cameras and a weather station. It sports a robotic arm with a power drill, a laser that

can zap distant rocks, a chemistry lab to sniff for the chemical building blocks of life and a detector to measure dangerous radiation on the surface.

It also tracked radiation levels during the journey to help NASA better understand the risks astronauts could face on a future manned trip.

Previous trips to Mars have uncovered ice near the Martian north pole and evidence that water once flowed when the planet was wetter and toastier unlike today's harsh, frigid desert environment.

Curiosity's goal: To scour for basic ingredients essential for life, including carbon, nitrogen, phosphorous, sulfur and oxygen. It's not equipped to search for living or fossil microorganisms. To get a definitive answer, a future mission needs to fly Martian rocks and soil back to Earth to be examined by powerful laboratories.



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## VIEWPOINT

# Make this a habit

Why should you read The Daily Texan? This fall will bring a presidential election, the U.S. Supreme Court's review of race-conscious admissions at the University of Texas at Austin, (which could have wholesale consequences for affirmative-action policies at every school in this country), a debate about hydraulic fracturing and whether it will relieve this country of dependence on foreign oil or push it into environmental chaos and action by the Texas governor to put this University on the untraveled path of striving for not better, but good enough.

The outcome of those stories will shape the world of UT students, including 8,000 incoming freshmen. Although transparently self-serving, we believe students should read about these stories regularly in The Daily Texan. Why the Texan? Although most newspapers besieged by the online overflow of information have undergone an identity crisis, serving students has consistently been the goal of the Texan.

For more than one hundred years, The Daily Texan has covered the campus, the current local, national and world events

important to students and, on this page, the opinions of those students. The paper's editor is elected annually by the student body, and previous Texan editors have been threatened with expulsion, impeachment, imprisonment and worse in the name of defending the paper. But throughout most of its history, the Texan has continued to print students' ideas without interference, though numerous attempts to censor the paper have been made.

UT is big, and competing for your attention are a number of distractions other than the Texan, which, for all you know, could be put together by that kid in your French class who stopped showing up after the third day of class. But because this paper is published by your peers you can trust that its editors and reporters won't try to sell you anything, won't write to please a publisher or watch a bottom line tethered to page views and, like you, will fight to understand what it is they believe.

And while the easiest thing to do in college is put your earbuds in and opt out, choose instead to pick up the paper as you

hustle to class or eat your dining hall breakfast of scrambled eggs served with an ice cream scoop. Submit a Firing Line when something you read in the Texan makes you good and angry, or a guest column when it dawns on you that you have something to say. Or even work for the Texan, where we hire writers, photographers, book reviewers, news reporters, videographers and others with good ideas and dogged attitudes about work.

The editors at the Texan try to engage the largest readership possible, and from time to time we may overlook certain features that are important to dedicated readers. We were reminded about a particular faction of our readership one evening when a reader left a screeching, five-minute long voicemail berating the paper's editor for inadvertently printing an unsolvable puzzle. (The angry reader had been working at it all day.)

If that was you — and to all others — pick up the paper and read it for ideas about your school from your fellow students. After all, ideas and fellow students are the reasons you came to UT in the first place.

## Forgo Facebook

**By Laura Wright**  
Guest Columnist

Three weeks into your first year of college, several things seem to happen all at once: That first test forces you to realize that your college classes are, in fact, harder than the ones you took in high school. You finally become comfortable walking down the hall of your co-ed dorm in a bathrobe. The steady stream of Facebook friend requests you received starting at orientation and through the first week of classes trickles to a stop, leaving you to gaze at the now-multiplied number of your 'friends': two, three, four times as many Facebook friends as you had coming into college. You'll have met these people in class, at parties, in organizational meetings, or you won't have 'met' them at all. Some you'll block, some you'll stalk, but together they'll form an audience that will half-consciously listen to you talk in white and blue text for the next four years.

In many ways, Facebook makes the college experience easier. With disarming efficiency, the site allows students to sort their ever-growing nets of new contacts into convenient categories: the people I know from this class, the people I know from this club. Likewise, Facebook photo albums preserve and separate life events both mundane and monumental, from high school graduation to that one night spent on Sixth Street. Facebook keeps you running in the correct loops by bombarding you with the most shocking news, engaging music video or time-wasting meme. A single timeline pans from your birth to your terrible middle-school haircut to your present successes. And should its plunging stock lead you to doubt the almighty site's current power, I dare you to run a campaign — for election to student government, city council or to get Betty White on SNL — without the social-media giant.

But, for all of Facebook's admitted advantages, its distractions — of which there are more than its time-wasting power — should cause users, especially young ones, to pause. It's not just that you don't need Facebook for col-

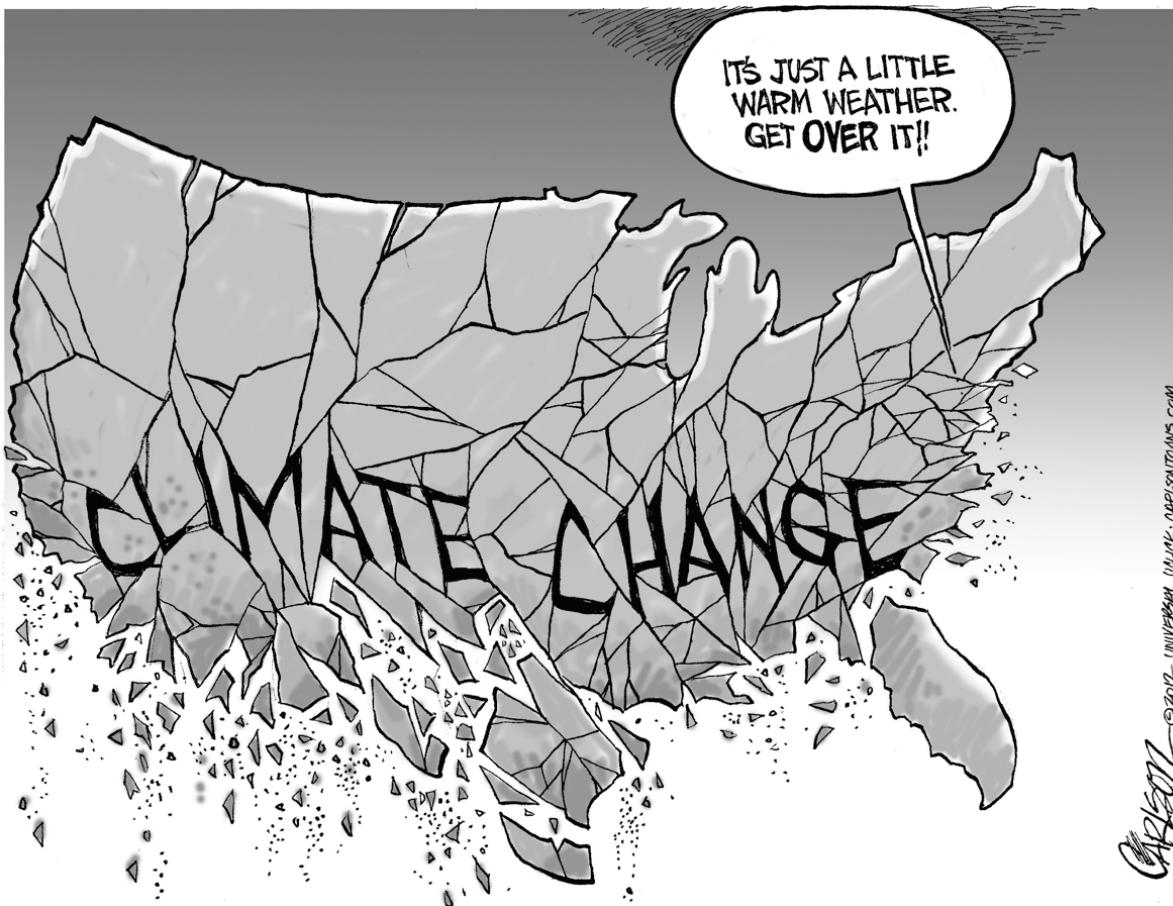
lege. You can get your memes on Reddit, communicate with your study group via Google Docs and plan a party through e-mail; that much is obvious. But what's really dangerous about Facebook, what should make people, especially college students, reconsider their membership, is that Facebook allows a person to spend more time creating their identity than actually finding it. Facebook confuses the act of re-posting an article with reading and thinking deeply about that article. Likewise, Facebook confuses a photo album of frolicking at Barton Springs with the actual enjoyment of a day at Barton Springs. For many, Facebook confuses maintaining the words "in a relationship" with actually evaluating and understanding the relationship they are in and the person they are in it with.

In college, your self-definition can twist, shatter and re-form anew within an alarmingly short period of time. Consequently, a Facebook status from three weeks ago can make you want to spear yourself on the piercing embarrassment you feel at re-reading it. There are the un-afflicted of us who use Facebook sparingly, checking in once a week and rarely looking at other people's profiles. For us, Facebook is neither a distracting nor destructive force. But Facebook causes the majority of young people to mistake the slim vines of comment threads and wall posts for the thick complexities of our root-like lives.

When you click the deactivate button, Facebook conjures up images of friends who will "miss" your virtual presence. Like a pandering politician unaware he's addressing members of the opposing party, Facebook's choices make clear its cluelessness — inevitably, the friends it chooses for this guilt trip are: your camp counselor from seven years ago, that kid from your middle school, an unfriendly second cousin, that girl from Spanish class you hate. As we all prepare to flood campus yet again this fall, I hope more students consider the final click and let their Facebook fall into inactivity.

*Wright is a Plan II and biology major from San Antonio.*

## GALLERY



## The hazards of press releases and academics

**By Kayla Oliver**  
DailyTexan Columnist

Earlier this summer, associate sociology professor Mark Regnerus garnered national attention when he published a study finding that children with gay parents fared worse than those with straight parents. The response to Regnerus' study was overwhelmingly negative, and objectors accused him of bigotry and bias. The controversy the study created resulted largely from editorializing a press release that sensationalized the study's results and raised suspicions about Regnerus' objectivity. This raises questions about what purpose press releases serve in aiding the public's understanding of the studies they describe. The question of a press release's purpose also arose in July, when The Daily Texan and then an outside accountability organization identified that the UT Energy Institute's press release oversold and oversimplified claims made in a fracking study.

The university would do well to restrict the content of press releases to statements that can be entirely supported by studies' results.

In his study's press release, Regnerus is quoted saying of traditional families, "Such families provide a biological link between parents and children, and unparalleled levels of stability, both of which have a long reach in the benefits they afford to children." The statement generated media frenzy, but it is not fully supported by the study itself.

The study evaluated very few children who had grown up with parents in a continuous gay relationship. Participants were asked, "From when you were born until age 18 (or until you left home to be on your own), did either of your parents ever have a romantic relationship with someone of the same sex?" (emphasis in study). The question elicited a range of responses, including answers describing parents who engaged in multiple relationships with individuals of both sexes. The entire sample of respondents raised by heterosexual couples, on the other hand, all lived their entire childhoods with their married biological parents.

In light of this disparity, Regnerus' finding that the children whose parents had gay relationships fared worse in the long run than children raised by their biological parents could be interpreted as an indictment not of gay parents but of parents who have unstable or multiple relationships while raising children, an argument that Regnerus himself points out briefly in the press release.

But these interpretations have largely been silenced by activists and bloggers who insist that Regnerus has not simply published a study with a weak statistical design but has embarked on a crusade against gay rights. Much of their furor is a reaction to Regnerus' quote in the original press release. It all leads one to wonder:

***We look to promote issues or studies that are significant. We try to promote the studies that advance science or a debate on public policy in a significant way.***

— Gary Susswein, UT spokesman

Who writes these press releases, and why?

UT spokesman Gary Susswein said that media relations personnel in each college or department generally work with faculty members to write press releases. "We look to promote issues or studies that are significant," he said. "We try to promote the studies that advance science or a debate on public policy in a significant way."

Cary Nelson, who served as president of the American Association of University Professors from 2006 to 2012, said that very few academic articles published by faculty members get a press release on a university website. "Some topics are obviously in the news and have a much better chance of getting press coverage," he said. "Or there's something provocative in the conclusion that might generate press coverage."

The result of these tendencies is that studies considered uncontroversial or simply uninteresting to the general public rarely warrant press releases unless a faculty member requests publicity for his or her work. It is easy to see how such a system could encourage flashy press releases designed to garner outside attention, but could also be more susceptible to introducing inaccuracies.

"In general, we always want to have quotes from [faculty members]," Susswein said. Sometimes quotes are not taken directly from a study because "if the study is written in a very scientific way, it may not be as accessible as just having the professor talk about it in layman's terms and describe its potential impact." In Regnerus' case, it seems that either the media relations personnel who wrote the press release mined for provocative material, or Regnerus contributed an editorializing statement on his own.

The questions about potential design flaws and potential conflicts of interest are reasonable ones in the case of Regnerus' study. UT's decision to conduct an inquiry is a sound and responsible undertaking in contrast to the recklessness with which some recent reports have been promoted to the press.

*Oliver is an English and sociology major from New Braunfels.*

## LEGALESE

Opinions expressed in The Daily Texan are those of the editor, the Editorial Board or the writer of the article. They are not necessarily those of the UT administration, the Board of Regents or the Texas Student Media Board of Operating Trustees.

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## RECYCLE

Please recycle this copy of The Daily Texan. Place the paper in one of the recycling bins on campus or back in the burnt-orange newsstand where you found it.



# Standardized tests focus on tricky language, not knowledge

By David Maly

As students and educators across the state attempt to raise standardized test scores, UT associate education professor Walter Stroup has found that the validity of standardized testing is questionable.

Along with two other researchers, Stroup has found an issue with the real-world Item Response Theory, the method used to develop the majority of standardized tests across the country. A 2009 study on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) exam by UT Ph.D. student Vinh Huy Pham, which was supervised by Stroup, showed that standardized testing has become more about a student's ability to interpret tricky language on an exam than about how much knowledge a student actually has on the relevant material. Stroup has recently taken a stand to bring attention to this research by speaking at a June Texas House Public Education Committee meeting and participating in interviews with multiple mainstream publications.

He said because other standardized exams are developed in the same way, they could easily have similar issues. In a country where testing is heavily used to hold both students and educators accountable, Stroup said if the testing isn't accurately measuring a student's knowledge of a subject, it is certainly unfair to hold people responsible for test results and a waste of taxpayers' money.

Test distributor Pearson currently has a five-year, \$468 million contract to cre-

ate Texas' standardized exams through 2015 and uses the real-world IRT method in developing them.

Stroup said the real-world IRT method uses benchmarks to determine how well students should be doing on the standardized tests and develops the tests accordingly. In the process of trying to develop an exam at a specific difficulty level, he said vendors will often choose a question because its wording is more complex and not because it actually covers more difficult material.

Stroup's work originally began when he was piloting a program for middle school math students in Richardson, Texas. He noticed that the students' improvement in the classroom and on exams didn't correlate with their minimal improvement on the TAKS exam.

"It didn't add up," he said. "Their scores on the TAKS exam didn't correlate with how much they had learned throughout the year."

The study shows the test's question ratio is 70/30 and growing, with 70 percent of the score on a TAKS exam being about a student's ability to "think like a gamer," or the ability to read deceptive language. The remaining 30 percent is about other factors such as classroom instruction and class scheduling, the factors that "should show up on these tests," Stroup said.

In the 2009 analytical study, Stroup's team analyzed the TAKS scores of nearly 100,000 students. The results demonstrated the profile of all four sections tested: English, math, science and social studies. Each had very similar score

distributions. This indicated that the vendor of the exam, Pearson, was aiming for a consistent distribution of test scores in each area, which Stroup said is a major issue with the test creation method.

Another major issue occurs with question selection, which Stroup said is flawed.

"For example, the test vendor may take 20 questions on slope and choose one because the right percentage of students get it correct," Stroup said.

Stroup said the skills necessary to do well on these exams are somewhat unknown but that whatever they are, these skills are not what instructors should be teaching students.

"The test-taking profile is an ability to read tricky language, to think strategically about which one of these four letters is right. I don't think society should be optimizing education for that."

UT alumnus Steven Maddox has been working in the education field for the last 30 years and is currently an assistant principal of Austin High School. Maddox said he has definitely seen classroom education altered to conform to the testing being given, something that takes away from classroom instruction and is futile if the test isn't emphasizing the right skills.

"We tend to have to narrow our focus on what is going on in the classroom, forcing us to not be able to branch out when opportunities arise," he said. "Those branch-out opportunities many times are great learning opportunities, but they aren't specifically the objec-

## A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A BAD QUESTION



A child jumps on a trampoline, as shown above. Which of the following causes the child to rise in the air?

- F Inertia  
G Mass  
H Reaction force  
I Gravitational force

## WHATS WRONG WITH THIS?

All of these answers would seem correct to someone who understands physics but might not have finely honed test taking skills.

F.) Inertia- This is the least correct, but the trampoline's inertia slows the kid down as he falls

G.) Mass causes the child to push the tramp which pushes the child back up

H.) Reaction force is the correct answer, but only because it is the most correct. If it wasn't for the reaction force, the child would not rise into the air

I.) Gravitational force is what causes the child to push on the trampoline's surface.

According to Stroup, the difficulty of this question is primarily derived from its setup, rather than the content it is covering, causing even Ph.D. students in the field of science to get the question wrong at first glance. Specifically, this question forces the student to decipher tricky language and use tactical thinking skills to determine the correct answer.

ANSWER: (H) Reaction force

This question was found on the TAKS April 2009 Exit Level Science Online, developed by Pearson. The illustration was edited by the Daily Texan.

Graphic by Betsy Cooper | Daily Texan Staff

tives that the teacher has to focus on. There is a lot of pressure on all of us to make sure that the kids are successful on those tests."

Maddow said the exams often put great pressure on excellent teachers who seem to be teaching classroom material well and can't figure out why their students aren't doing better on such exams.

He said the result is forcing teachers to make their instruction more like what is seen on the exams, forcing teachers to take classroom time simply to show students how to break up tricky exam questions so the students can score better on what the exams are actually testing them on.

Stroup said he feels they have lost some credibility by producing such a flawed testing method.



Pu Ying Huang | Daily Texan Staff

Associate education professor Walter Stroup has conducted studies on the validity of standardized testing.

"There are many people that have the ability to properly create standardized exams," he said.

Stroup said he is planning on addressing the Texas House Public Education Committee again in June 2013 and will be seeking publication for his research

as well, something that will be easy to do considering its content.

DeEtta Culbertson, spokesperson for the Texas Education Agency, said her office is still in review of Stroup's research and has no final opinion on it at this time.

# PARTY ON THE PLAZA

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# Nick news is good news: editor retires



Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff

Nick Hadjigeorge covered the Occupy Austin protests as a senior reporter. As an associate news editor, Hadjigeorge oversaw the Student Government Controversy of 2012. During the summer, he moved office equipment between the remodeled Daily Texan basement and temporary workspace.

*Editor's note: A 30 column is a chance for departing permanent staff to say farewell and reflect on their time spent in The Daily Texan's basement office. The term comes from the old typesetting mark (-30-) to denote the end of a line.*

## By Nick Hadjigeorge

I don't think most Texan staffers join the newspaper in their senior year and leave after they graduate. The odd timing of my tenure was compounded by the fact that I had no prior

journalism experience, and had only decided to try out for general reporting on a whim. With my Texan biography out of the way, I could spend the remainder of this column analyzing and opining our publication's relevance in the age of digital media. I could rattle off a number of memorable experiences and inside jokes, or I could divine what working at the Texan means for my future. Instead, I will simply thank my co-workers, advisers and readers for making my time here magnificent. -30-

# New voter laws can affect young voter turnout

By Martha Irvine  
Associated Press

Gone are the days when young voters weren't taken seriously. In 2008, they helped propel Barack Obama into the Oval Office, supporting him by a 2-1 margin. But that higher profile also has landed them in the middle of the debate over some state laws that regulate voter registration and how people identify themselves at the polls.

Since the last election, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Wisconsin and Texas and other states have tried to limit or ban the use of student IDs as voter identification. In Florida, lawmakers tried to limit "third party" organizations, including student groups, from registering new voters.

Proponents of voter ID and registration laws say the laws are intended to combat voter fraud. The intent, they say, is to make sure people who are voting are who they say they are and have the right to vote.

"In this day and age, nothing could be more rational than requiring a photo ID when voters come to the polls," Pennsylvania's senior deputy attorney general, Patrick Cawley, said recently when defending the state's new law in court.

Others see these efforts as attempts to squelch the aspirations of the budding young voting bloc and other groups, and they're using that claim to try to get more young people fired up.

"You think your vote doesn't matter? Then why are they trying so hard to take it away from you?" asks Heather Smith, president of Rock the Vote, a group that works to register young voters. "It does demonstrate the power they have."

Smith notes that it's not just an issue for college students.

She was teaching a civics class for graduating seniors at an inner-city high school in Philadelphia this spring and asked how many among them had driver's licenses that could be used, if the Pennsylvania law requiring a photo ID to vote were to survive the legal challenge.

"They looked at me like I had two heads," she says. Only two students in the room of 200 raised a hand; few of the students had cars.

These are the sort of stories that have led some students to get involved, particularly on college campuses.

In Florida, Rock The Vote joined with the League of Women Voters to challenge restrictions on "third party" voter registration. A federal judge said last spring that many of the restrictions made it too difficult for legitimate voter registration organizations to do their work. During the fight, students at the University of Central Florida placed ironing boards around campus, a symbol that they were "pressing the issue."

Now, while most college campuses are relatively quiet, some of those students have taken it upon themselves to register their peers during freshman orientation this summer.

"We feel like it's up to us," says Anna Eskamani, a 22-year-old graduate student and a leader at the Florida school.

In Pennsylvania, when lawmakers were proposing the voter ID law there, 22-year-old Adam Boyer was among students who asked them to reconsider an outright ban on the use of student IDs.

"I'd like to think that the proponents of this law weren't trying to disenfranchise certain demographics. I hope it was an oversight on their part, and I think that was the case," says Boyer, a recent graduate of Penn State who plans to attend law school at Villanova this fall.

Pennsylvania lawmakers decided to allow "valid" student IDs, meaning they had to have expiration dates. But most colleges and universities in Pennsylvania didn't have such dates on their IDs.

So students and other groups that advocate for them have been working with universities in Pennsylvania and states such as Wisconsin to add them. A state judge struck down Wisconsin's voter ID law; that ruling is being appealed.

New IDs at institutions such as Penn State, for instance, now have expiration dates. Returning students also can get an expiration sticker to put on their IDs, a common plan at schools that are addressing the ID issue.

Joel Weidner, a Penn State official who helps oversee ID policy, says the school is most concerned about out-of-state students who might rely on a student ID to vote if they don't have a Pennsylvania driver's license. Of the 80,000 Penn State students on campuses statewide, he estimates that about 10,000 are from other states.

But in many instances, returning students still have to be aware that they need the expiration sticker and know where to get one.

"What we don't want to see is a school offering up a change to students but doing it quietly," says Dan Vicuna, staff attorney and campus vote project coordinator at the Fair Elections Legal Network in Washington. "We really hope it will be coupled with a real public awareness campaign."

Voter ID and registration aren't the only voting issues on campuses.

Long lines and a lack of polling places have been problems for students in past elections, particularly in 2008. So some universities are trying to get polling places on campus. Arizona State is among those that recently approached election officials and got one.

In Ohio, student groups are working with county officials to lengthen early voting.

"Some have been more receptive to that than others," says Will Klatt, a recent graduate of Ohio University who is now a senior organizer for the Ohio Student Association.

All the rules, and the differences in them state to state and even county to county, can create a lot of confusion for young voters, some of whom are voting for the first time.

In Wisconsin, during a gubernatorial recall election in June, the League of Women Voters received 200 calls from students who said

voting requirements caused confusion at the polls. Many, the league said, left without voting. The confusion, in that instance, was over a requirement that Wisconsin voters live in a precinct for 28 days to be eligible to vote there. That's a tricky requirement for students, who are often mobile in the summer months.

Last year in Maine, groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union criticized Secretary of State Charlie Summers after he sent letters to out-of-state students at four universities telling them they needed to register their vehicles in Maine and get driver's licenses there if they wanted to continue voting in the state. Some saw the move as voter intimidation and a violation of the Voting Rights Act, particularly because Summers found no evidence of voter fraud in an investigation that prompted the letters.

Summers' spokeswoman said the secretary of state had consulted with the Maine attorney general and "acted in accordance with all state and federal laws."

The U.S. Supreme Court has sided with students on this issue and their ability to vote where they attend school, even when they've come from another state.

"So students should be registering in the communities that they feel are home — whether that's their parents' home or their apartment or their dorm room," says Lee Rowland, counsel for the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center for Justice, a nonpartisan legal think tank in New York. "It is a constitutional right to vote."

Right now, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Indiana and Georgia are among states with voter ID requirements in place. Tennessee is the only state that bans use of any student ID. Others limit use to state institutions and/or require proof that the ID is valid, such as the expiration date.

Wisconsin, Texas, South Carolina and Virginia are among states where voter ID laws are on hold due to legal challenges.



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UT's sprawling campus leaves little room to park your car and not much space between buildings. Although some may not find sprawling vegetation on campus, it's not far. Austin is home to more than 250 parks with many more in the surrounding area. When students take time to lift their heads from the books, many travel to some of the areas below to relax.



1. UT Turtle Pond: Known as one of the most relaxing places on campus, the Turtle Pond is a great place for a picnic or even a nap. The snapping turtles used to lie below the surface and take pigeons when they came for a drink, according to the School of Biological Sciences.
2. Zilker Park: Located near downtown Austin and right across Lady Bird Lake, Zilker Park has many attractions and traditions, including the 155-foot-tall Zilker Holiday Tree in December and the Zilker Park Kite Festival in March.
3. The Greenbelt: Follow the river going through Zilker Park south on the Barton Creek Greenbelt Trail and you're in a number of parks collectively known as the Greenbelt, full of hidden treasures including swimming holes, bouldering spots and the Airman's Cave. Inside the cave, there is a collection of statues and art.
4. Eastwoods Park: Just north of Jesse H. Jones Communication Center, the park has BBQ pits, basketball courts and more. The park has a statue of the donkey to commemorate the park as the original location of Eeyore's Birthday Party.
5. Pease Park: Drive down Lamar to Kingsbury Street and reach Pease Park, the current home for Eeyore's Birthday Party. Pease has great hiking trails, beach volleyball courts and picnic tables that can seat several hundred.
6. Hamilton Pool Preserve: Take a roadtrip to this pool on Texas Highway 71 through Bee Cave and turn left on FM 3238. The pool never dries up, and the area around it is has a variety of unique native plants.
7. Mayfield Park: Located on 35th Street across Texas Highway Loop 1, Mayfield was once an estate but was donated to the city in 1971 for all to enjoy. The two-acre estate contains a historic cottage, gardens and peacocks.
8. McKinney Falls State Park: The spot for camping, free fishing and wildlife observation. The old ruins of Thomas F. McKinney's homestead, a rancher and businessman for whom the park is named after, are found in the park.
9. City of Austin Hancock Golf Course: One of the oldest golf courses in Texas, Hancock Golf Course is also home to basketball courts, picnic tables, a playground and a BBQ pit. Follow Duval Street off San Jacinto Boulevard and turn right on 41st Street.
10. Hippie Hollow: Only 20 minutes off Lake Travis, where clothing is optional. Some say a visit to the park is an exhilarating experience, but you'll have to go yourself to check.

# Research confirms global warming

By Seth Borenstein

Associated Press

The relentless, weather-gone-crazy type of heat that has blistered the United States and other parts of the world in recent years is so rare that it can't be anything but man-made global warming, says a new statistical analysis from a top government scientist.

The research by a man often called the "godfather of global warming" says that the likelihood of such temperatures occurring from the 1950s through the 1980s was rarer than 1 in 300. Now, the odds are closer to 1 in 10, according to the study by NASA scientist James Hansen. He says that statistically what's happening is not random or normal, but pure and simple climate change.

"This is not some scientific theory. We are now experiencing scientific fact," Hansen told The Associated Press in an interview.

Hansen is a scientist at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York and a professor at Columbia University. But he is also a strident activist who has called for government action to curb greenhouse gases for years. While his study was published online Saturday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, it is unlikely to sway opinion among the remaining climate change skeptics.

However, several climate scientists praised the new work.

In a blunt departure from most climate research, Hansen's study — based on statistics, not the more typical climate modeling — blames these three heat waves purely on global warming:

—Last year's devastating Texas-Oklahoma drought.

—The 2010 heat waves in Russia and the Middle East, which led to thousands of deaths.

—The 2003 European heat wave blamed for tens of thousands of deaths, especially among the

elderly in France.

The analysis was written before the current drought and record-breaking temperatures that have seared much of the United States this year. But Hansen believes this too is another prime example of global warming at its worst.

The new research makes the case for the severity of global warming in a different way than most scientific studies and uses simple math instead of relying on complex climate models or an understanding of atmospheric physics. It also doesn't bother with the usual caveats about individual weather events

having numerous causes.

The increase in the chance of extreme heat, drought and heavy downpours in certain regions is so huge that scientists should stop hemming and hawing, Hansen said. "This is happening often enough, over a big enough area that people can see it happening," he said.

Scientists have generally responded that it's impossible to say whether single events are caused by global warming, because of the influence of natural weather variability.

However, that position has been shifting in recent months, as other studies too have concluded climate change is happening right before our eyes.

Hansen hopes his new study will shift people's thinking about climate change and goad governments into action. He wrote an op-ed piece that appeared online Friday in the Washington Post.

"There is still time to act and avoid a worsening climate, but we are wasting precious time," he wrote.

The science in Hansen's study is excellent "and reframes the question," said Andrew Weaver, a climate scientist at the University of Victoria in British Columbia who was a member of the Nobel Prize-winning international panel of cli-

mate scientists that issued a series of reports on global warming.

"Rather than say, 'Is this because of climate change?' That's the wrong question. What you can say is, 'How likely is this to have occurred with the absence of global warming?' It's so extraordinarily unlikely that it has to be due to global warming," Weaver said.

For years scientists have run complex computer models using combinations of various factors to see how likely a weather event would happen without global warming and with it. About 25 different aspects of climate change have been formally attributed to man-made greenhouse gases in dozens of formal studies. But these are generally broad and non-specific, such as more heat waves in some regions and heavy rainfall in others.

Another upcoming study by Kevin Trenberth, climate analysis chief at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, links the 2010 Russian heat wave to global warming by looking at the underlying weather that caused the heat wave. He called Hansen's paper an important one that helps communicate the problem.

But there is bound to be continued disagreement. Previous studies had been unable to link the two, and one by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration concluded that the Russian drought, which also led to devastating wildfires, was not related to global warming.

White House science adviser John Holdren praised the paper's findings in a statement. But he also said it is true that scientists can't blame single events on global warming: "This work, which finds that extremely hot summers are over 10 times more common than they used to be, reinforces many other lines of evidence showing that climate change is occurring and that it is harmful."



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# Supreme Court case shines light on use of race in admissions

By Jody Serrano

Three years ago, when he first stepped on campus, someone told Michael Williams he would not be at UT if it were not for the top 10 percent rule. Williams is black, and the words he heard that day echo arguments a rejected UT applicant is making to the U.S. Supreme Court.

“It’s a pride thing,” Williams, a sociology and applied learning and development senior, said. “I would hope I would be admitted even if I was not in top 10 percent.”

The debate on this question will open on the national stage in October when the Supreme Court hears oral arguments in *Fisher v. University of Texas*, a case brought by rejected UT applicant Abigail Fisher, who claims she was denied admission because she is white and said she was just as qualified as her minority counterparts. UT will be submitting its briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court Aug. 6. Fisher did not graduate in the top 10 percent of her class.

Williams said although race is not the only factor in admissions, it is important.

“This is a case that will affect admissions and a lot of schools of higher education,” he said. “It’s not just going to change UT, it’s going to change a nation. I don’t know if students know that.”

Since February, Williams has been researching black male students admitted to UT under the Texas policy, and presented his findings Aug. 1. Based on his findings, as a black UT student, if he had not been in the top 10 percent of his class, the odds of admittance would not have been in his favor.

Passed in 1997 during the tenure of former Gov. George W. Bush, the law was created as a race-neutral policy to increase minority representation in Texas universities. The program grants certain students automatic admission to any public university in Texas if they graduate in the top 10

percent of their high school class. Williams found the plan had succeeded, with TTP black male enrollment at UT rising steadily over the years. However, he found the number of black males admitted to UT who were not in the top 10 percent of their graduating class had declined.

Choquette Hamilton, UT associate director for development in the department of African and African Diaspora Studies, and other researchers conducted similar research on the relationship between the top 10 percent admittance and black students in 2011.

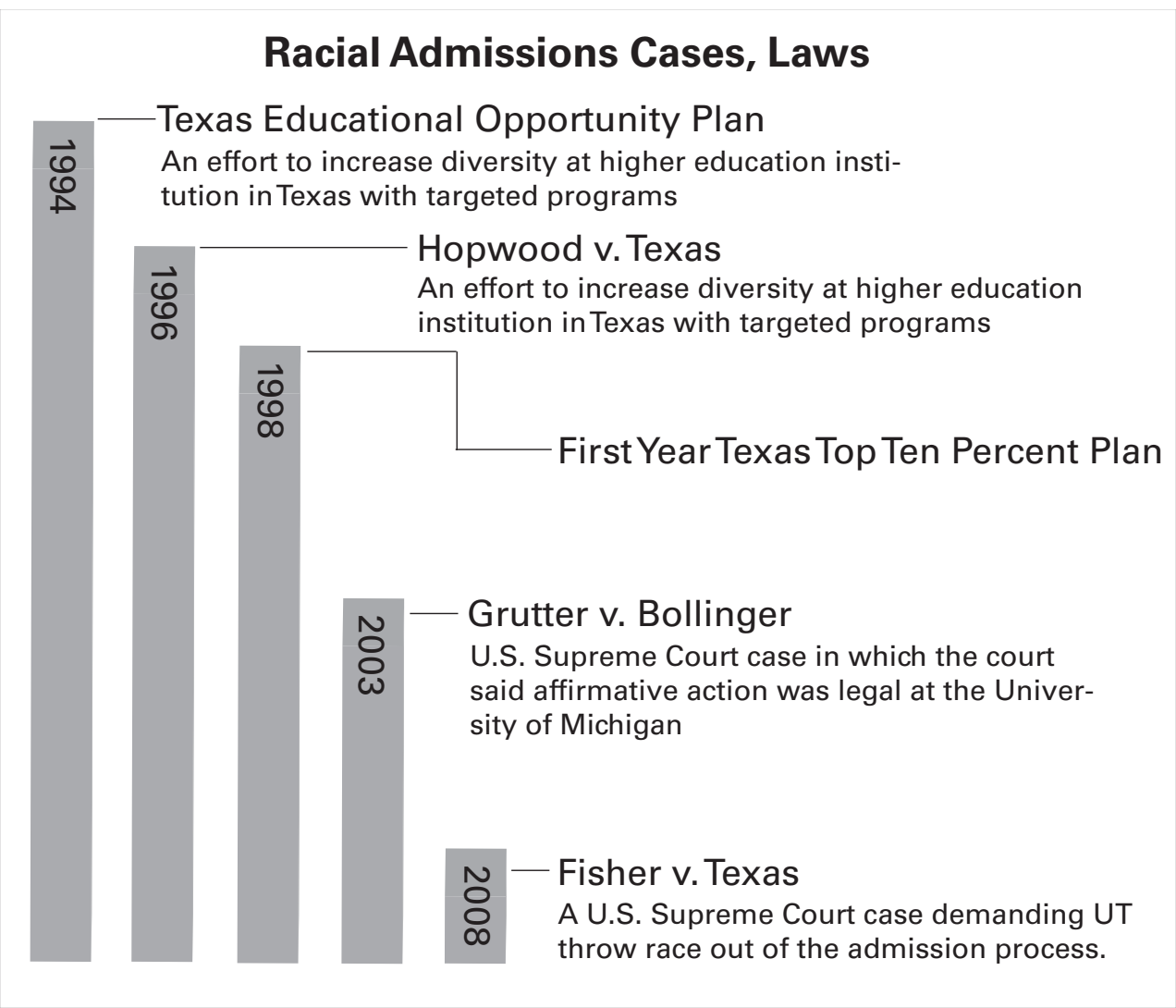
She said the rule has played a major role in increasing UT access to Asian and Latino students, but not black students. Hamilton herself was admitted under the rule and said she did not think she would have gotten into UT otherwise.

Hamilton said minority students could be negatively impacted if race is thrown out of the admissions equation as a result of the Fisher case.

“Policies like affirmative action and top 10 percent play a major role in minority admission,” she said. “Race is closely tied to class, race is tied to opportunity, race is tied to these inequitable institutions that create a disadvantage for students. Until there is true equal opportunity, we are always going to need racial preferences in these situations.”

For students, like Fisher, not automatically admitted in the top 10 percent, UT determines admission based on their Academic Index and Personal Achievement Index, according to the Office of Admissions.

The Academic Index evaluates students based on class rank, completion of required curriculum and SAT/ACT scores. The Personal Achievement Index evaluates students based on essays, extracurricular activities, leadership, honors and awards, service, work experience and special circumstances, which include race and ethnicity. Their combined score on both determines whether they



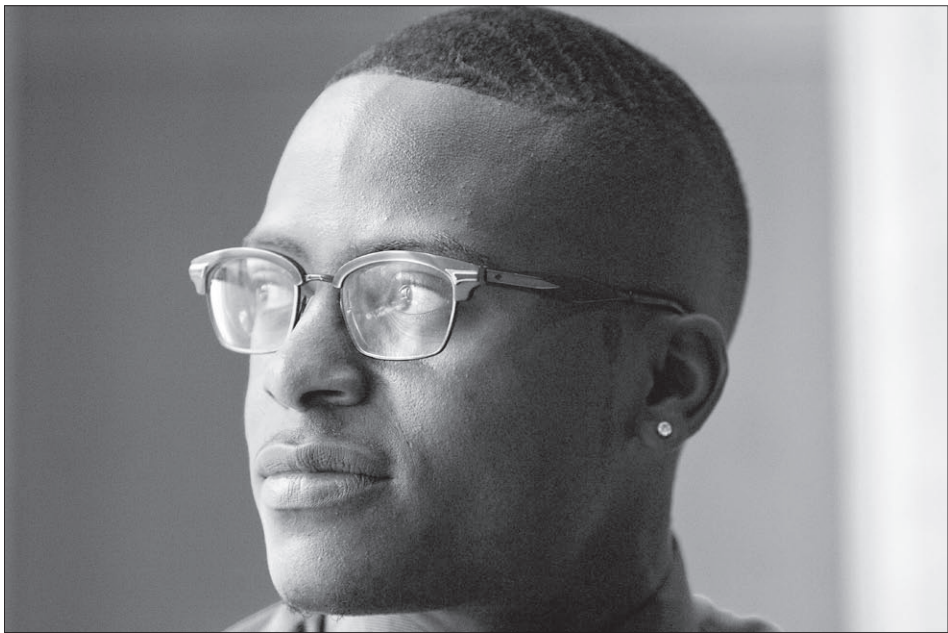
Graphic by Sarah Foster | Daily Texan Staff

get into UT.

Director of Admissions Kedra Ishop said UT has been using race and ethnicity in its admissions process since 2005. Before 1996, UT also had affirmative action policies that allowed for minority students to be considered differently. Ishop said the recruitment of a diverse student body is a top priority for UT and President William Powers Jr.

“Race and ethnicity are some of the many factors of personal achievement,” Ishop said. “It has no bearing in priority on the process of holistic review. With the premise of holistic review, everything is weighed in context.”

UT is the only school in the U.S. to use both the top 10 percent rule, considered a race-neutral policy, and racial factors in special circumstances. Other Texas universities, like Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University, do not consider race in



Andrew Torrey | Daily Texan Staff

Michael Williams has been researching the top ten percent rule as a means of discovering the affect of an applicant’s race on the admission practice.

the admissions process.

Regarding whether the admission process would be greatly affected if race were thrown out of the picture, Ishop said she had no comment. She said admissions will evolve as necessary.

Lauren Gaskill, an incom-

ing education freshman, said it was very difficult to get into the top ten percent at her school and she focused more on building her resume, working two jobs and doing extracurricular activities. She said although she did not feel being white

played a part in her admission to UT, she had other white friends who were denied admission and felt race was a factor.

“I don’t think UT accepted me because of the color

FISHER *continues on page 12A*

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# Science students to save with online tools

University Co-op employee Cameron Ingram sorts through and labels used textbooks in the store's basement Saturday morning. Some natural sciences professors are requiring online teaching materials instead of the traditional textbook.



**Marisa Vasquez**  
Daily Texan Staff

**By Joan Vinson**

This fall, some chemistry and physics students won't have to wait in line at the University Co-op for their intro-level textbooks, as professors are opting for online teaching materials instead of the traditional book.

Students will be allowed to purchase any general chemistry textbook that covers the higher level chemistry content for Chemistry 301 and 302. By altering this book requirement, around 4,500 undergraduate students will save on steep textbook prices ranging from \$100 to \$200. Instead of focusing on content delivery in class, students will engage in problem solving and critical thinking. Because of this change, it will now be up to students to find a textbook that will further their understanding of lectures.

Cynthia Labrake, chemistry and biochemistry senior lecturer, said the chemistry

department has worked to develop its own learning modules in course websites, Blackboard sites and Quest Learning and Assessment, an online classroom management tool.

"With support from the Course Transformation Project, we have developed in-class activities specifically designed for concept development," Labrake said. "The best way to develop concepts in chemistry is to construct your own knowledge. A textbook is more of a passive direct teach, whereas an active guided inquiry lesson is much more effective at facilitating the construction of new knowledge."

Removing textbooks and using online tools is known as “flipping the class,” and a number of courses across the College of Natural Sciences are adopting this teaching method. Quest is used to provide online video lectures, resulting in more in-class time for discussion and critical thinking. Labrake does not

think the lack of a required textbook will hinder her students' ability to completely absorb the material, especially since the curriculum in Chemistry 301 and 302 does not follow one specific textbook.

"I would like to say that our decision to forgo the textbook was made deliberately and with much thought, planning and development," Labrake said. "Our desire is to increase student learning and actually make it easier for them to be successful now and in the future."

After student surveys in Chemistry 301 and 302 were completed, chemistry and biochemistry associate professor David Vandebout said few students thought the textbook was a helpful tool for learning course material. Instead of being a useful resource, the textbook led some students astray.

"In the past, some students would obsess over topics they found in the

***By altering this book requirement, around 4,500 undergraduate students will save on steep textbook prices ranging from \$100-\$200.***

text that were not covered in class, or in any assignments," Vandembout said.

Sacha Kopp, physics professor and associate dean for the College of Natural Sciences, said he discontinued a required text for Physics 302 and 355. He said when his students were asked to rank learning resources, they regarded his Quest materials as very useful but did not think the optional free textbook was much help.

"Most said they didn't use the text. I don't think they suffered, and course grades were high," Kopp said.

# Student debt grows, affects middle class

**By Hannah Jane  
DeCutiis**

When Morgan Bond enters UT as a freshman this fall, she will have 27 college credit hours under her belt. When Morgan graduates from UT in three years, as she hopes to do, she will be waist-deep in thousands of dollars of student loan debt.

Like many students, Morgan, an incoming radio-television-and-film freshman, will be paying for the vast majority of her education using federal loans. Her parents, Rachel and Warren Bond, work for Dell in Round Rock. Aside from Morgan, they have two younger children whom they also hope to put through college with the help of financial aid.

Morgan said the use of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the FAFSA, a required document for anyone willing to receive federal and state aid, was a relatively easy electronic process that allowed her family to qualify for loans to cover nearly all of her schooling.

"I did the FAFSA process," Morgan said. "I pretty much have everything paid for through financial aid. My parents applied, and they got everything covered under their financial aid. I also applied and got an additional \$5,000 per year to pay for food and books and miscellaneous things."

Overall, the \$22,000 for Morgan's tuition, housing, food, textbooks and other items this year will come from federal direct unsubsidized loans, which include a 6.8 percent interest rate that begins while Morgan is still in school. Federal direct subsidized loans, which

have a 3.4 percent interest rate, spare a student from having to pay interest until they are out of school.

Any money she has saved up until now will go toward paying off financial aid, rather than for school itself, she said.

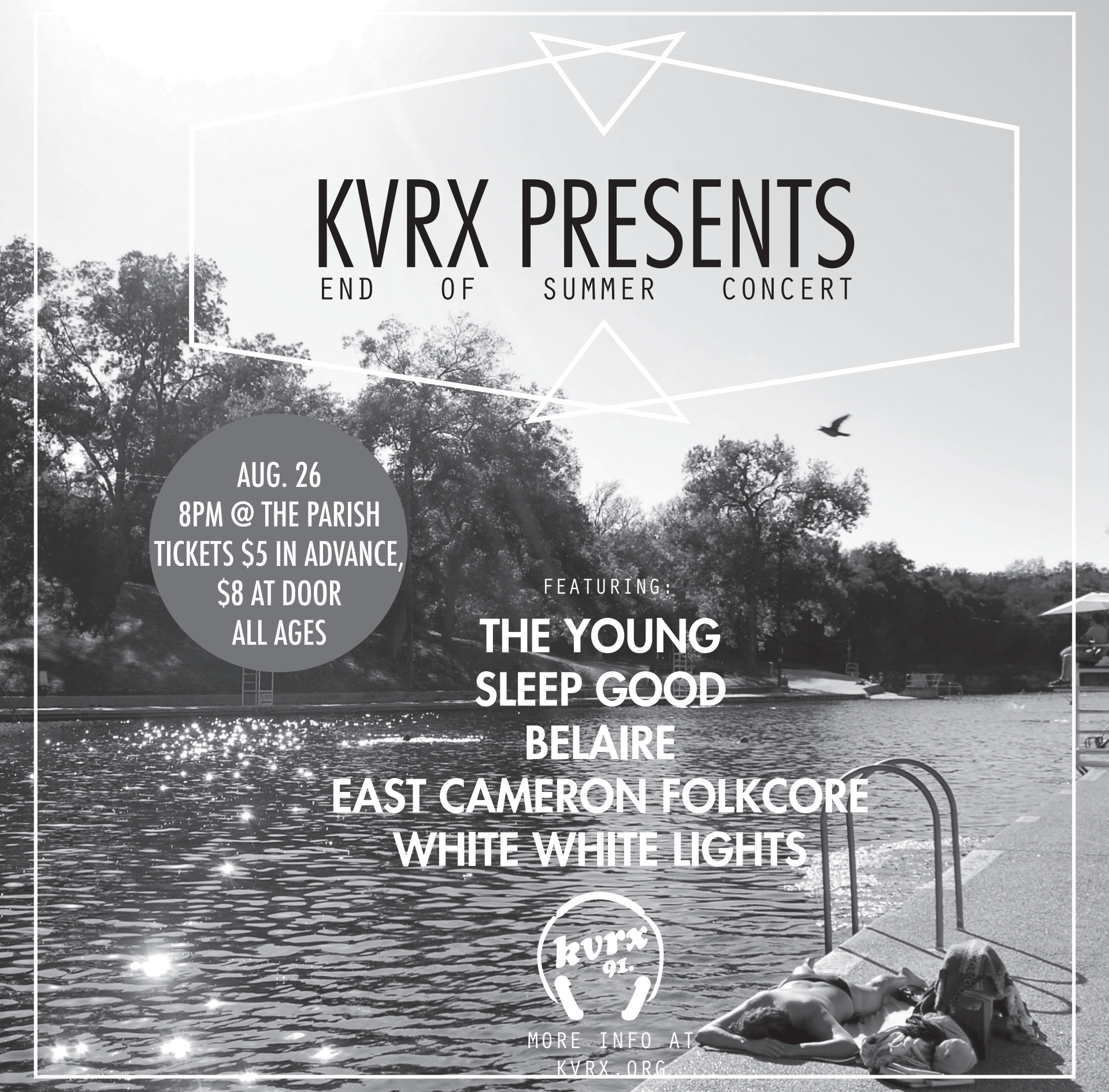
"Financially, that's definitely my biggest worry, like 'How am I going to pay back all of these loans?'"

In-state tuition for a full-time UT undergraduate amounts to nearly \$10,000 per year. She plans to live in Jester Center Residence Hall, which costs a minimum of \$8,714 for room, board, shared room and community bath. Between tuition, housing and transportation, the University projects the 2012-2013 cost of attendance to be around \$13,000 per semester.

For the 2009-2010 school year, more than 40,000 students were receiving federal aid amounting to nearly \$300 million in loans. At that time, the median loan amount for a freshman was \$5,473.

Morgan said she was a drum major at her high school, maintained a 4.0 grade point average, logged more than 2,000 hours of volunteer work and was a member of various student organizations. Despite her achievements, she received only \$375 in scholarship offers from the University.

"We're basically upper middle-class," Morgan said. "I'm not a minority. I pretty much only qualify for academic scholarships, and even those take into account the need. It was kind of disappointing at the beginning because even though I

DEBT *continues on page 114*

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# Austin authorities use lights, officers to fight increasing crime

By David Maly

While Austin and the state of Texas are seeing an overall drop in crime, downtown Austin is experiencing the opposite, forcing local authorities to implement new strategies to deal with growing safety concerns.

Crime statistics for the downtown Austin area show a 24.8 percent overall increase in violent crime and a 0.5 percent increase in property crime from May 2011 to May 2012, according to the Austin Police Department. In response to this growing problem, APD is taking crime-preventative measures, including increasing the number of officers downtown, placing extra lighting in high-crime areas and requiring all downtown officers to carry a whistle to better gain pedestrian attention in emergency situations, APD Assistant Chief Raul Munguia said.

This represents a growing trend for the 78701 ZIP code, which encompasses the downtown area. Over the last five years, 78701 has seen a 49.7 percent increase in violent crime and a 20.5 percent increase in property crime. APD defines violent crime as homicide, sexual assault, robbery and aggravated assault. Property crime is defined as burglary, theft, motor-vehicle theft and arson.

Munguia said APD's most recent measure to deal with growing downtown crime has been adding eight extra patrol officers to the downtown night shift. Along with those officers, an undetermined number of additional officers will be added this month for what Munguia calls the "back-to-school" spike. The

*Stay with your friends, and control your alcohol intoxication. Don't let yourself be caught off guard.*

— Patrick Connor, APD Lieutenant

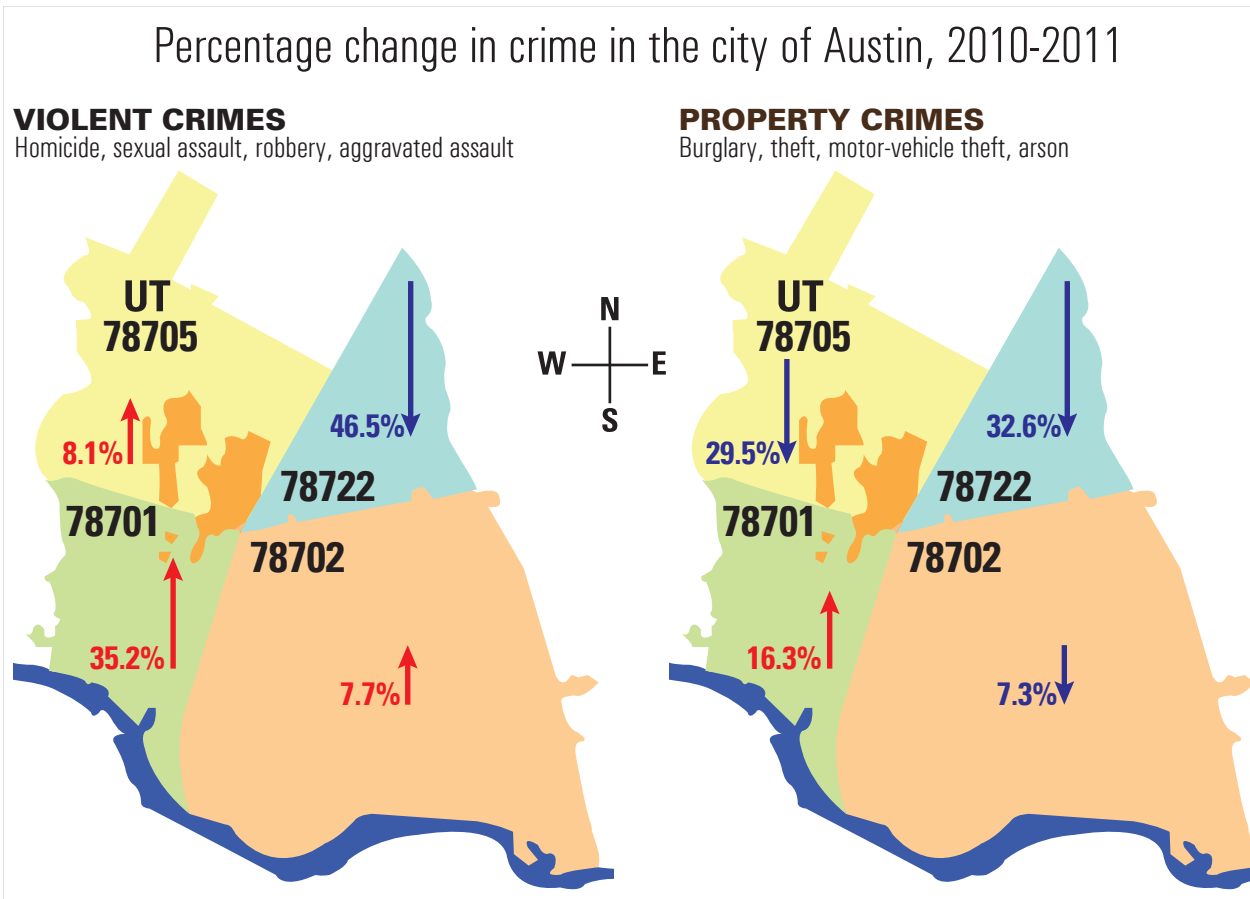
spike refers to a period of annual increased violent and property crime in the downtown area during the months of August and September, when the summer is ending and students are returning to school.

"It almost seems like they want to have their fun before they have to hit the books again," Munguia said.

For the 78701 ZIP code, APD statistics show a 35.2 percent increase in violent crime and a 16.3 percent increase in property crime from 2010 to 2011. Those numbers include a 62.5 percent rise in the number of robberies, a 22.6 percent rise in the number of aggravated assaults and an 11.9 percent rise in the number of motor-vehicle thefts.

In the UT area, the campus saw a 2.4 percent decrease in violent crime and a 6.1 percent decrease in property crime last year. The 78705 ZIP code, encompassing the areas west and north of campus, saw a 8.1 percent increase in violent crime and a 29.5 percent decrease in property crime during the same period.

Economics senior Kathy Garin has been working as a hostess at Iron Cactus, a Mexican bar and grill in



Graphic by Natasha Smith | Daily Texan Staff

downtown Austin, for the last year-and-a-half. Garin said she has definitely noticed increased crime downtown and has witnessed many incidents firsthand.

"It's definitely something that needs to be taken care of," she said.

Garin said out of all the criminal activity she's seen while working downtown, there is one incident that stuck out to her.

"I literally saw someone get stabbed," she said, referencing a stabbing on East Sixth Street.

Garin said while she does feel safe in her workplace, it is only because walls shield her from most violent Sixth Street crime.

Munguia said APD is well aware of the recent rises in crime, as they constantly monitor crime sta-

tistics from all parts of Austin in order to most effectively distribute police resources and implement new strategies.

"We call it intelligence-led policing," he said. "For example, downtown and up around Eighth Street, we were seeing a lot of aggravated assaults, so we added extra officers and also temporary lighting. We soon saw that the lighting was very effective in deterring crime by watching the statistics from that area, prompting us to experiment with extra lighting in other areas as well."

Munguia said APD is currently in talks with Austin Energy to permanently place extra lighting on East Eighth Street near Congress

Avenue and temporary lighting in the area immediately west of Interstate Highway 35 between East Third and Fifth Streets, where there has been a rise in motor-vehicle thefts.

APD Lieutenant Patrick Connor said despite the rising crime levels, he believes the downtown area is safe for students as long as they remain alert at all times.

"The key is to be aware of your surroundings," he said. "Stay with your friends, and control your alcohol intoxication. Don't let yourself be caught off guard."

Connor said the highest level of crime occurs downtown between the hours of 2 and 3 a.m. when bars are closing,

and people are beginning to make their way home in large numbers.

He said he also advises students to avoid leaving valuables visible in their vehicles and to park in a safe location — car thefts are up 12.2 percent city-wide from this time last year.

Of all downtown crime issues, Connor said the largest growing problem is the increasing number of "punch and run" robberies.

"That was the biggest trend that we have seen in the downtown area — intoxicated individuals walking alone to find their friends, their hotel, a cab or something like that, and then being attacked from behind for their cell phone," he said.

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# DEBT

continues from page 9A

worked really hard, it didn't pay off."

Morgan said with the 27 college credit hours she currently has, she hopes to graduate from UT in three years. Her parents plan to pay for her first two years of loans, and she will take over paying for the third year, which will be the same year her younger brother enters college, she said.

Morgan's mother, Rachel Bond, said the interest rates on unsubsidized loans are a major source of financial strain when trying to pay back a loan, especially for families with multiple children.

"Taking into consideration that I stayed at home with the kids for the first 12 years of their lives, we did not have a college savings plan," Rachel said. "We will be paying off their college loans for many years to come. We will begin right away, but the 6.8 percent interest rate will be a tremendous burden over time. The burden will be greater once our son goes to college."

Rachel said even though her family will be financially capable of putting all three of their children through college, there is an unnecessary amount of strain on high-achieving children of middle-class families.

"At this time, we are in a position that paying off student loans will not break our personal bank because we both have jobs and are doing well," Rachel said. "We are both in the IT industry and this area tends to be hit on this side of the economy. Personally, I feel there is not enough assistance given to the kids of middle-income families. Morgan was considered for very few scholarships, grants, etc. because we make too much money."

Tom Melecki, director of the Office of Student Financial Services, said the financial aid process for the University was much easier this year than last year, despite the larger incoming freshman class.

"In some ways, we're actually in somewhat better shape this year than last year," Melecki said. "Last year we had to wait until the end of the legislative session to know whether or not we had money to fund state grants. We were able to let people know a lot earlier this year and give them a degree of certainty."

After the 2009 legislative session, Melecki said, students who qualified for the TEXAS Grant, a state grant awarded to financially needy students, were awarded \$6,780. Today, students with the grant receive \$5,000 each semester.

"Some of our key grant programs aren't as generous as they used to be, but at least this year we were able to tell people what they had," Melecki said. "In that respect it has been a somewhat better year for our students."

Melecki said the Office of Student Financial Services is actively trying to stress the importance of graduating in four years to reduce student costs. On average, student debt increases by more than \$5,000 when a student graduates in five years. After six years, that average debt increases by almost \$13,000, he said.

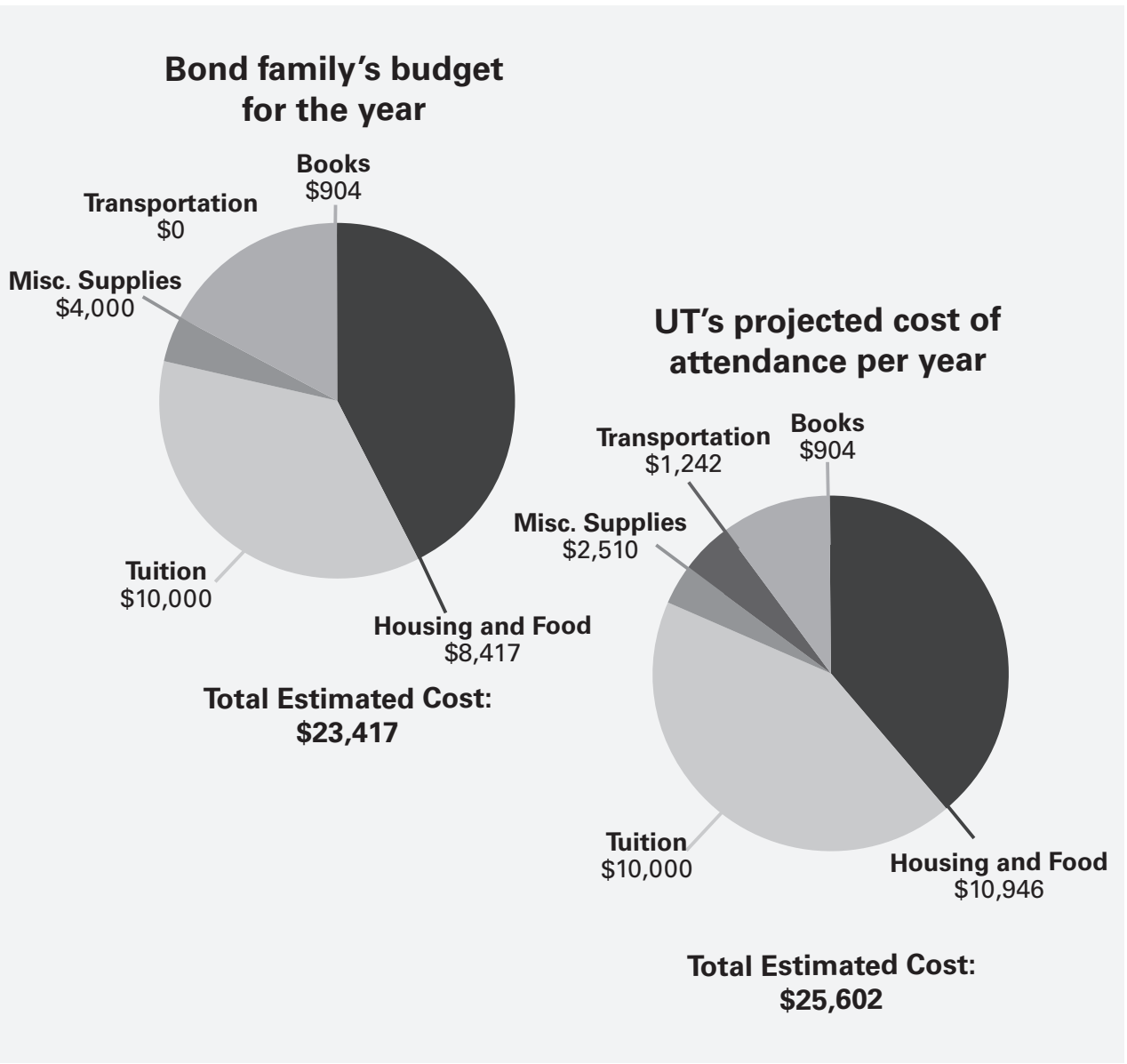
"You want to have a great experience, but not one where you just sort of hang around, because it's getting way too expensive to be a student for a prolonged period of time," Melecki said. "We are doing everything we can to help students understand that it really is in their best interests to save a little here and there, and to graduate as soon as possible."

Tuition for the 2012-2013 school year is due 5 p.m. Aug. 15. Students receiving financial aid will be able to pay using their aid funds online with the Office of the Registrar. Any additional financial aid distributions for books and other necessities will be made within the first few weeks of school.



Morgan Bond, center, and her family Madison, Warren, Rachel and Bailey beginning to prepare for Morgan's upcoming college career at The University of Texas. They plan to pay for her schooling and housing through federal direct unsubsidized loans.

Phillip Hutchinson  
Daily Texan Staff



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# Proposed ordinance may increase difficulty of co-op building

By Bobby Blanchard

While city officials claim a new policy requiring property owners to seek approval before constructing group housing buildings is a process that would only take a few months, history shows the approval process can actually take a few years and cost thousands of dollars.

On Aug. 16, City Council is set to vote on an ordinance amendment which would require developers of group housing on MF-4 zoned properties in the Hancock, Heritage Hills and Shoal Crest neighborhoods apply for a special permit before constructing new group housing. The ordinance also affects a part of West Campus. This would mean a property owner seeking to build a cooperative or a Greek house on MF-4 properties in this area would have to get approval from the city's planning commission. Representatives of the College Houses Cooperatives and the Inter-Cooperative Council, organizations which represent co-ops in West Campus, are fighting the ordinance, saying it would discourage co-op expansion.

Cooperatives offer students cheaper living options and give residents a sense of community, Texas State University student Joshua Sabik said. Proponents of the ordinance have said group housing hurts the value of single-family homes in the area. Supporters have also said that the ordinance does not make it impossible to build cooperatives, and anyone seeking to do so would be able to apply for a conditional use permit from the city planning commission. Austin City Planner Robert Heil said this permit typically takes about three

months to get.

However Daniel Miller, general manager of co-ops under NASCO Properties, an organization that acquires property for cooperative development, said this has historically not been the case. The Sasona Cooperative, a home in the Zilker Neighborhood, was established on an MF-3 zoned property in 2002. MF-3 zoned properties already require property owners to obtain a conditional use permit before building group housing. Miller said the process to get this permit took about five years, not three months.

"There is a written process to how this works, and that written process is manageable, but it is not easy," Miller said. "There are parts that are not obvious when people talk about getting a permit."

Miller was one of the original property owners who bought the property to build the Sasona Cooperative. He said he had no idea how long the process would take when he first applied.

"The way things are set up in Austin is it makes it easier to stop something from happening, but more difficult to allow something to happen."

Miller said neighborhood residents were not opposed to the actual building of the cooperative, but they were more opposed to what could happen if the cooperative didn't work out.

"What if the cooperative fails? And we've given this property permit, and so this property can now become a fraternity," Miller said. He said the neighborhood residents were opposed to a Greek house.

He said if he had known how much work it was going to take to build the cooperative, he would not



Residents Alex Gray and Greg Greenwald play guitar while Donny Goff relaxes in the living room at Sasona Co-op Thursday afternoon. It took five years to obtain a permit, illustrating how the proposed MF-4 ordinance amendment could hinder expansion or construction of housing cooperatives.

have built Sasona Cooperative on that property. He said he is concerned this ordinance amendment will discourage organizations from expanding or building new co-ops.

"The uncertainty is the real problem," Miller said. "Because there is this subjective piece, there is no written set of reasons on why somebody could impose you getting this permit. They could oppose you getting this permit for any reason they want."

The council will vote on the issue on Aug. 16. But representatives of the cooperative are planning to request a one-month delay on the vote, due to concerns that voting during the break between classes would discourage student participation.



Sasona is a non-student housing cooperative located near South Lamar Boulevard and just recently celebrated its 10-year anniversary.

## FISHER *continues from page 8*

of my skin but because of the student that I am," she said.

Gaskill said she thinks UT should throw race out of the admissions process and evaluate potential students on a solely academic basis.

Kayla Celeste, an incoming radio-television-film freshman, said it was also very competitive to get into the top 10 percent at her school. Celeste said

she did not expect to get into UT and was already planning on going to Emerson College in Boston. Celeste said she knew UT and other colleges look at race in admissions.

Celeste, who is black, said race definitely plays a part in admission, but it doesn't mean that anyone who might be accepted on a racial basis is any less prepared to be a college student.

"The fact that I am black could have been the thing that put me over and put me on the admitted side," Celeste said. "I would like to think I was admitted because I was more prepared. I am going to do my studies and have that mind-set."

Dominic Chavez, spokesman for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, which works to coordinate access and efficiency

for schools across the state, said minority recruitment has been very important to the board. Chavez said the board has very specific goals for increasing the number of Hispanic and African-American students in its various programs.

Although Chavez would not comment specifically on Fisher v. UT, he said the board wants to do more to increase participation in higher edu-

cation by minorities and all Texans.

"Regardless of any lawsuit, I don't think that goal is going to change at all," he said. "We're still going to be focused on getting more students, particularly African-American and Latino students, to college. We're going to continue to tell the Texas Legislature to give more financial aid for these poor students. For us, it's business as usual."

**"The fact that I am black could have been the thing that put me over and put me on the admitted side."**

— Kayla Celeste, Freshman



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# HORNS STRIKE GOLD

BASKETBALL

## Durant plays smaller role as Team USA dominates

By Harry Jung IV

The United States Olympic basketball squad is possibly one of the most decorated teams in all of sports, and after one week of preliminary matches they already look prepared to cut down the nets once again.

This year's U.S. team consists of two NBA finals MVPs, two former NCAA champions and ex-Longhorn and 2007 Naismith award-winner Kevin Durant. It is believed by many that this assortment of talent rivals what is known as the original Dream Team, the gold medal-winning 1992 USA basketball team. This team has kept the status quo expected of any other American basketball team: beating each of its opponents without difficulty.

As the Americans began the preliminary rounds of Olympic competition, they made quick work in their first three games and won by an average margin of victory of 52.33 points, which began with a 98-71 win over France.

"We know everybody else expects us to win by 40 points," forward Carmelo Anthony said in a statement after the team's first win. "For us, a win's a win. We expect every game to be like this one."

After making quick work of Tunisia shortly

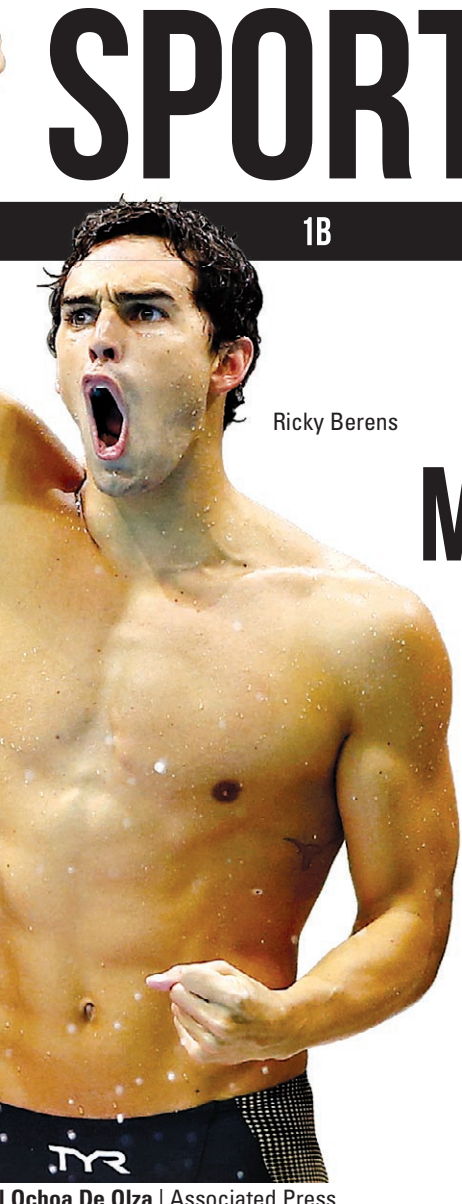
thereafter in a 110-63 effort, the new dream team made history. In their third preliminary match they established the highest scoring mark by any basketball team in Olympic history with their 83-point victory over Nigeria, 156-73. Carmelo Anthony recorded a Team USA single-game record of 37 points, including an unprecedented 10-of-12 shooting performance from beyond the arc. His 10 three-pointers were the most 3-pointers made or attempted in a single Olympic game by one player.

"Our guys just couldn't miss tonight, and they shared the ball," head coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "We had 41 assists. When you hit 29 threes, it's very difficult to lose in a game like that."

Then came the Americans' first real test, Lithuania. The Lithuanians, 1-2 in prelims, took the U.S. to the final minutes and even held a slight two-point lead with a little under six minutes to go. Then LeBron James' clutch gene kicked in as he scored nine of his last 20 points in the final four minutes to help outlast Lithuania 99-94 to remain undefeated in the Olympic Games.

"I feel like it was my time to step up offensively,"

DURANT continues on page 2B



Ricky Berens

Daniel Ochoa De Olza | Associated Press

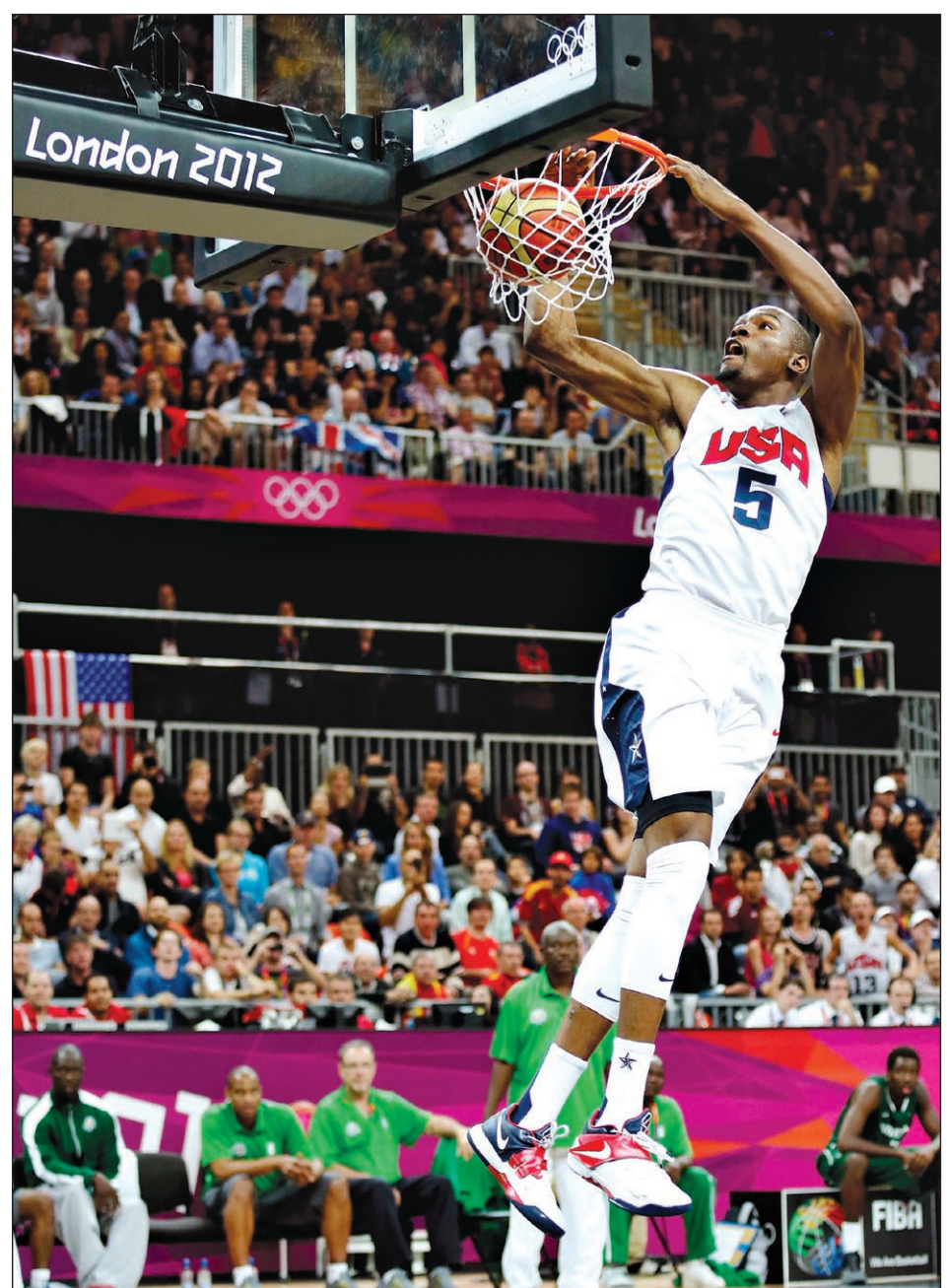
## MEDAL COUNT

LONDON 2012

2 GOLD  
2 SILVER  
2 BRONZE

ALL-TIME TOTAL- 123

69 GOLD  
34 SILVER  
20 BRONZE



Charles Krupa | Associated Press

Kevin Durant (5) finishes off a dunk in Team USA's opening round game against Nigeria. The United States' 83-point margin of victory over Nigeria was the highest winning margin in Olympic history.

VOLLEYBALL



Jeff Roverson | Associated Press

Destinee Hooker spikes a ball in an opening round match against defending gold medalists Brazil.

## Hooker helps team to fast start

By Sara Beth Purdy

Former Longhorn Destinee Hooker and the United States women indoor volleyball team

have easily cruised to a 5-0 record in the qualification round in London. The U.S. contingent will advance to the second phase of competition, which consists of eight teams playing in a

quarterfinal, semifinal and final round. In 2008, the American team came home with silver after losing the gold medal match

HOOKEK continues on page 2B

SWIMMING AND DIVING

## Former Longhorns earn medals in pool

By Sara Beth Purdy

The University of Texas boasts a strong swimming program that has brought home numerous national titles over the last couple of decades. The Longhorns have also sent quite a few swimmers to represent the United States in Olympic competition.

During the past two weeks at the London Olympics, former Longhorns Brendan Hansen and Ricky Berens finished at the top of the podium, each bringing home a gold medal to Texas.

Berens medaled in the 4x200 meter freestyle relay, his second gold medal in this event. He joined the Michael Phelps, Ryan Lochte and Conor Dwyer relay. The relay team finished in 6:59.70, a second slower than the world record they

Troy Dumais set in Italy in 2009. The gold marks the second medal in London for Berens who claimed silver in the men's 4x100 meter freestyle relay that occurred earlier in the games. Berens now has three career medals in the Olympics after winning gold in the 4x200 meter freestyle relay in 2008.

Hansen also claimed a relay gold on the last day of the



Troy Dumais  
Michael Sohn | Associated Press

BERENS continues on page 2B

## SIDELINE

### WHAT TO WATCH

Longhorns Olympic Schedule By Day

8/6/12

**Time:** 1 p.m.  
**What:** Men's 3m Springboard Preliminary Rounds  
**Spotlight:** Troy Dumais

**Time:** 1:15 p.m.  
**What:** Women's Shot Put Finals  
**Spotlight:** Michelle Carter

**Time:** 1:20 p.m.  
**What:** Women's 200m Round 1  
**Spotlight:** Sanya Richards-Ross

8/7/12

**Time:** 4:00 a.m.  
**What:** Men's 3m springboard semifinals  
**Spotlight:** T. Dumais

**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**What:** Men's 3m Springboard Finals  
**Spotlight:** T. Dumais

**Time:** 2:25 p.m.  
**What:** Women's 200m Semifinals  
**Spotlight:** S. Richards-Ross

**Time:** 3:15 p.m.  
**What:** Men's 1500m Finals  
**Spotlight:** Leo Manzano

8/8/12

**Time:** 4:10 a.m.  
**What:** Men's Decathlon  
**Spotlight:** Trey Hardee

**Time:** 2:45 p.m.  
**What:** Women's 400m Hurdles Finals  
**Spotlight:** Melaine Walker

**Time:** 3:00 p.m.  
**What:** Women's 200m Finals  
**Spotlight:** S. Richards-Ross

8/9/12

**Time:** 3:00 p.m.  
**What:** Men's Decathlon  
**Spotlight:** T. Hardee

**Time:** 1:20 p.m.  
**What:** Men's Triple Jump Final  
**Spotlight:** Samyr Laine

**Time:** TBA  
**What:** Women's Volleyball Semifinal  
**Spotlight:** Destinee Hooker

8/10/12

**Time:** 2:40 p.m.  
**What:** Women's 4x100 Relay Final  
**Spotlight:** Bianca Knight

**Time:** 1:10 p.m.  
**What:** Women's 4x100 Relay Round 1  
**Spotlight:** S. Richards-Ross

**Time:** TBA  
**What:** Men's Basketball Semifinal  
**Spotlight:** Kevin Durant

8/11/12

**Time:** 2:25 p.m.  
**What:** Women's 4x400 Relay Final  
**Spotlight:** S. Richards-Ross

**Time:** TBA  
**What:** Women's Volleyball Bronze and Gold Medal Games  
**Spotlight:** Destinee Hooker

8/12/12

**Time:** TBA  
**What:** Men's Volleyball Bronze and Gold Medal Games  
**Spotlight:** K. Durant

**Time:** TBA  
**What:** Men's Diving Finals  
**Spotlight:** T. Dumais



# Ash, McCoy take QB battle in stride

By Jim Vertuno

Associated Press

Call it a quarterback controversy or a competition. Whatever it is, the Texas Longhorns remain unsettled at the position heading into the 2012 season.

The Longhorns reported to training camp Sunday with David Ash and Case McCoy still fighting to take control of the offense after a rocky 2011 in which both started several games in an 8-5 season.

Texas could have the best defense in the Big 12 and has a stable of potentially punishing running backs. If they produce a legitimate passing game, the Longhorns could be back in contention for a conference title — and maybe more.

Ash would seem the likely frontrunner after leading Texas to a Holiday Bowl win over California, a solid performance that earned him the games' most valuable player honors. But coach Mack Brown has so far refused to name Ash the starter for the Sept. 1 season opener against Wyoming and insists there's a

spirited competition for the position.

So what's holding Ash back?

"You're asking the wrong guy," Ash said Sunday. He and McCoy sat about 20 feet apart and each was surrounded by reporters asking about the competition, their summer workouts and how they've tried to improve their play.

Ash, who was 3-3 as a starter last season as a freshman, said he's been reading and studying how to be a better leader, yet struggled Sunday to define what it means to be one.

"What is leadership? I don't know. People say it's a lot of different things. When you come down to it, it's a real abstract term that has a different meaning to a lot of people."

McCoy, who was 3-2 as a starter, said he's more confident after putting on an extra 15 pounds to get up to 200 and bulking up in the weight room. McCoy said not playing in the Holiday Bowl was motivation to challenge Ash for the job this season.

Both players struggled badly at times last season as the Texas passing game



Sophomore quarterback David Ash speaks with members of the media before the fall practice season begins.

Marisa Vasquez  
Daily Texan Staff

floundered to eighth in the Big 12. Ash appeared to be a calm and steady personality but he struggled to grasp a complex college offense as a true freshman. McCoy, the younger brother of former Texas quarterback Colt McCoy, showed flashes of his brother's playmaking brilliance, but his swash-buckling approach also led to some critical errors. McCoy's fourth-quarter scramble set up the game-winning field goal against Texas A&M and a week later he had five turnovers in a loss at Baylor.

McCoy, who will be a junior this season, admits he's

got to cut out the mistakes if he hopes to play.

"I've matured. David's matured. That's going to show," McCoy said. "I'm a whole lot more confident."

McCoy's mistakes came in bunches, but Ash had his share with eight interceptions compared to just four touchdowns.

Brown said Sunday he expects both players will be better this season. After a summer of player-led workouts, Brown said who starts will be determined over the next couple of weeks in practices closed to the media and public.

Brown said he's in no

hurry to declare a starter.

"When they make the decision for us, then we'll make it," Brown said. "I'm not panicked when it's done. The worst thing you can do is make a decision when it's not ready."

Brown is no stranger to quarterback controversies in his 15th season at Texas.

In 2000 and 2001, the Longhorn fan based was divided over his decision to start Chris Simms over Major Applewhite. In 2003-2004, Chance Mock was still battling Vince Young until Young took over the role for good and led the Longhorns to the

2005 national title.

After Young left, most assumed talented recruit Jevon Snead would take over but Colt McCoy emerged as the starter as a redshirt freshman and won 45 games over the next four seasons.

But in each of those cases, the Longhorns still won a lot of games because the battles were between players with elite talent. Since Colt McCoy left, Texas is just 13-12 over the last two seasons with two straight losing seasons in the Big 12.

"Everybody needs to help us get that position back," Brown said.

## DURANT

*continues from page 1B*

James said. "I am here to do the little things, whatever the team needs in Coach K's perspective, and I was able to make a few buckets down the stretch."

Through the first week of Olympic basketball play the United States and Russia are the only teams that remain undefeated with

identical 4-0 records.

"We still have a lot of work to do, but that's the beauty of it all," Texas alumnus Kevin Durant said. "We're all coming together in such a short time. We're having fun playing. Guys don't worry about points, rebounds, assists; we just want to play to win."

## HOOKER

*continues from page 1B*

3-1 against Brazil.

The United States took the court in the first game against South Korea and was able to finish the match with a 3-1 victory. Two days later, they took the match against Brazil 3-1, the reigning gold medalists from the Beijing Games. U.S. completed its first sweep Aug. 1 with a 3-0 victory over China, who

took bronze in Beijing.

The American women clinched their side of the bracket, Group B, with their sweep of Serbia Aug. 3. Hooker led the team with 12 kills and six blocks. Sunday afternoon, United States completed the first phase with a 3-0 sweep of Turkey.

Hooker is second in scoring with 104 points behind South

Korea's Kim Yeon-Koung with 137. Hooker has logged 87 spikes with 14 blocks and 3 serves.

Brazil and Serbia will not be continuing in the second phase, having been eliminated after the first round. Russia, Italy, Japan and the Dominican Republic also qualified for the second phase out of Group A with Great Britain, the host

country, and Algeria having been eliminated.

Hooker and the United States will face the Dominican Republic Aug. 7 in the quarterfinal round of the second phase of competition. The United States is the top qualifier from Group B and will be the top seed going into the second phase of competition.



Lee Jin-man | Associated Press

Current Longhorn senior Kathleen Hersey gestures after winning her 200 meter butterfly semifinal.

## BERENS

*continues from page 1B*

swimming competitions in London. He swam the breaststroke leg of the men's 4x100 meter medley relay along with Phelps, Matt Grevers and Nathan Adrian. This marks the third gold that Hansen has earned in the 4x100 meter medley relay. Hansen was part of the

2004 and 2008 relay teams that took gold at the previous Olympics. He also took bronze in the 100-meter breaststroke. Hansen now owns six total Olympic medals with three gold, one silver and two bronze medals to his name.

Recent graduate Jimmy Fei-

gen took silver, along with Berens, in the men's 4x100 meter freestyle relay.

Former Longhorn Troy Dumais, a four-time Olympian, took bronze in the men's 3-meter synchronized springboard event, his first Olympic medal.



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# Family illness factors into Fera's decision

By Genard C. Armas and Jim Vertuno  
Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa.—Penn State lost a special teams ace to Texas, while two more Nittany Lions have left Happy Valley without ever playing a game for first-year coach Bill O'Brien.

Just days before the start of training camp, Penn State's roster remained in flux Thursday after the NCAA allowed players to explore transfers in light of strict sanctions against the program for the Jerry Sandusky child sex abuse scandal. It set up a collegiate version of free agency in which opposing teams could cherry-pick players off the Nittany Lions' roster.

Anthony Fera was the second starter to leave after the kicker-punter announced Thursday he would be booming kicks for Texas this year. The junior, who is from the Houston area, will have two years of eligibility left.

Fera said the last few weeks had been difficult. His mother was recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, which also factored into Fera's decision.

"Shortly before I arrived on campus, the most important person in my life was diagnosed with MS (multiple sclerosis), making it more and more difficult to travel each weekend from Texas to see me play," Fera said in a statement released by the Longhorns. "I've been afforded the opportunity to give back to my family and make their lives a little easier by transferring to a university much closer to home, The University of Texas."

Fera's powerful right leg made him one of the top specialists in the Big Ten after hitting 14 of 17 field-goal tries and averaging 42 yards

a punt last season. He said he loved Penn State, teammates, the fans and coaches — both past and present.

As of Thursday afternoon, eight players have left Penn State since the NCAA imposed penalties on July 23, including a four-year bowl ban and significant scholarship reductions. One of those departing players, though — backup quarterback Rob Bolden — was given permission to look at other schools before the punishments were announced.

Despite the defections, Penn State noted that of the 117 players on the team's roster on July 23, 109 players, or 93 percent, had stayed as of Thursday afternoon. The count would include scholarship players and walk-ons.

The entire starting defense, including standout tackle Jordan Hill and linebackers Gerald Hodges and Mike Mauti, is expected to remain intact. Otherwise, the team has lost just two starters — though tailback Silas Redd and Fera were two of the most important players as O'Brien embarked on his rookie season as coach.

Redd, a 1,200-yard rusher, is the most crushing loss after defecting to Southern California on Tuesday. A revamped offense patterned after the potent attack at O'Brien's previous employer — the New England Patriots — may have to rely on converted wideout Bill Belton to carry the load at tailback.

On Thursday, Fera followed Redd out the door of the football building. Fera offered gracious praise for Penn State, and boasted he would "proudly say that I am a Penn State alum!"

"I will be giving my all to the Longhorns," Fera said, "but will always be pulling for my friends and Nittany Lions family as well."



Marisa Vasquez | Daily Texan Staff

Longhorns head coach Mack Brown addresses the media as the fall football camp season officially begins. Texas will receive the services of former Penn State kicker and punter Anthony Fera this season. Fera will have two years of eligibility remaining at Texas.

# Fera fills hole for Texas at kicker

By Sara Beth Purdy

Junior Anthony Fera has announced his intent to transfer to Texas for the fall of 2012 and will add depth to the Longhorns' inexperienced roster as a kicker. Fera, who is originally from Cypress, will have two years of eligibility left as a Longhorn.

"His folks reached out to us. There's a sickness in the family. A lot of things had to happen for this to work for him and for us," head coach Mack Brown said in a recent press conference. "He promised Coach Paterno, when he got to Penn State, that he would graduate from Penn State, so it's all been worked out that he will come here, he will be on scholarship, he will be a junior so he has two years of eligibility left. He has worked it out to where he can graduate from Penn State by having some hours

transferred back, which is what he wanted."

Fera comes to Texas from Penn State University and is a product of the NCAA's decision to allow immediate transfers with no loss of eligibility in the wake of the scandal in University Park, Penn.

"The past few weeks have been extremely difficult as I've wrestled with the decision on my future," Fera said. "It's been tough to endure, not only for me but for my entire immediate family back in Texas and the Penn State football family."

In 2011, Fera was named to the First Team All-Big Ten team as a punter and was a semifinalist for the Lou Groza Award, which recognizes the top place-kicker in the country. He was a hopeful for the Ray Guy Award for top punter as well.

"We felt like that we could also help him, and

we had to do what was best for Texas because he needed to get closer to home," Brown said. "Again, he'll have to have some paperwork done, he'll have to get into school, he'll have to pass physicals. It'll probably be a couple of days before he joins us at practice as well."

He was the Big Ten Special Teams Player of the Week three times in the 2011 season for the Nittany Lions. In 2011, he averaged 42 yards per punt on 64 punts, placing 18 of those inside the red zone. His field goal percentage of 82.4 was third in the Big Ten last year when he went 14-of-17. Fera was a perfect 20-of-20 in extra point attempts and accounted for 62 total points for Penn State.

"I like the fact that we're not putting so much pressure on young, talented kickers and punters now," Brown said in a recent press conference. "We'll at



Anthony Fera  
Kicker

least have experience as an option. I don't think he would have come if there was not the sickness in the family. I think he really needed to get back close to home. And since he promised Coach Paterno, he needed to get a Penn State degree, so he's not leaving Penn State so much as he's coming here. He loves their new coaches. He wanted to stay there and fight against the public perception that they might not be very good."

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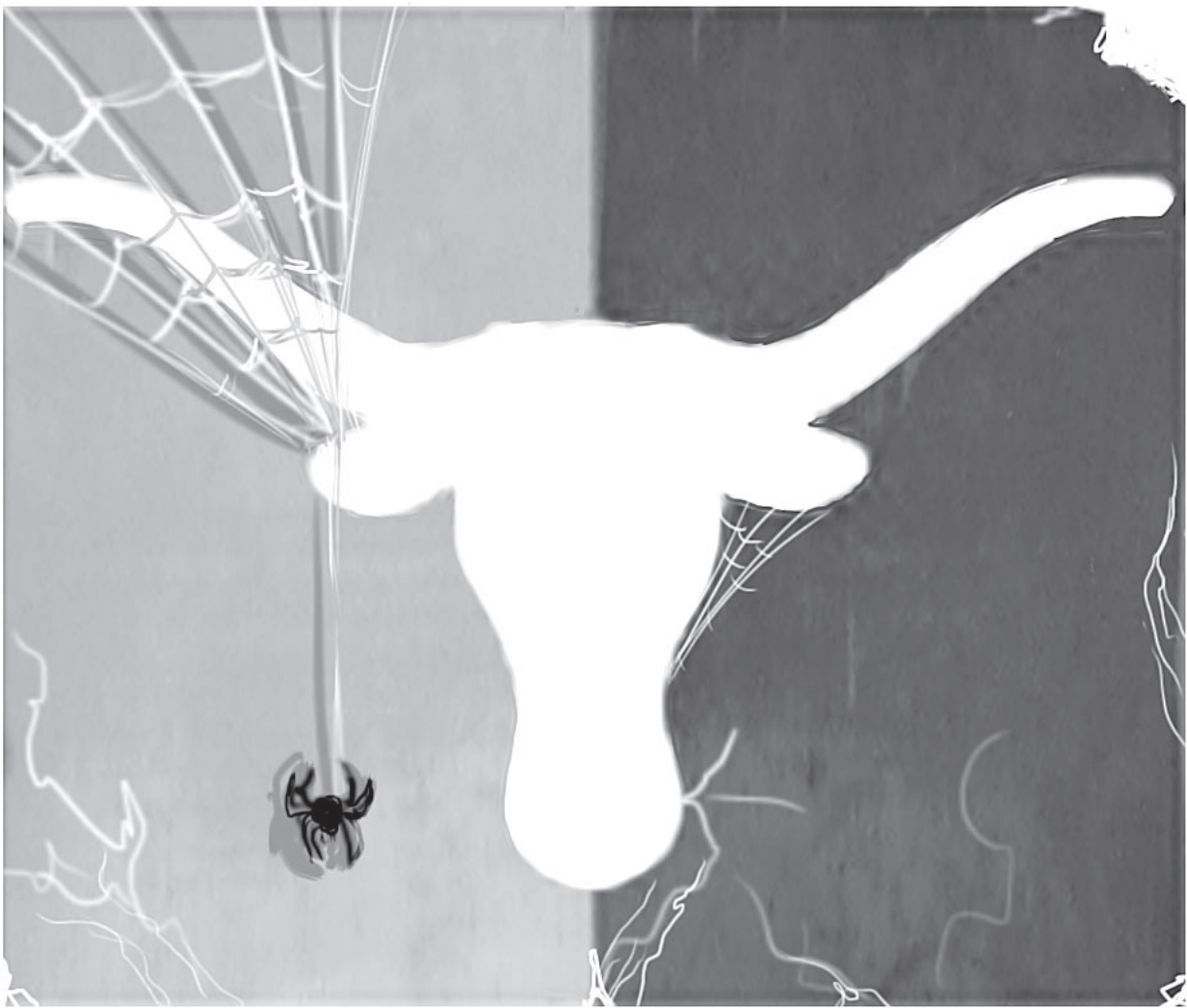


Illustration by Holly Hansel | Daily Texan Staff

# Longhorn Network: What's up?

By Lauren Giudice  
Daily Texan Columnist

Texas is entering this season with many changes within the program and within the Big 12 conference. One thing that hasn't changed is the Longhorn Network.

Remember the Longhorn Network? Probably not, since you most likely don't get the channel.

The network, which launched last August, remains at a standstill with very few cable companies offering the network. Verizon's FiOS is the largest cable provider to carry it.

Some smaller providers like Grande Communications carry the Longhorn

Network, but as it approaches its one-year anniversary, its overall audience is still scarce.

According to Austin American-Statesman columnist Kirk Bohls, Time Warner Cable is no closer to reaching an agreement with ESPN.

According to Bohls, Time Warner released a statement in June that said, "We had discussions with ESPN (about distribution), and we did not come to an agreement on terms for a contract that would allow Time Warner Cable to distribute the Longhorn Network. At this time, there aren't any plans to carry the Longhorn Network."

ESPN is paying Texas

\$300 million over the next 20 years to own and operate the network. But as time goes on, the network loses more credibility and instead earns more frustration from fans.

According to the Houston Chronicle's Mike Finger, Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds said at least two and possibly three football games will be aired on the network this year. That means a quarter of the team's regular season games will only be available to few fans.

Last year, Texas' lopsided wins over Rice and Kansas were aired on the network. This year, Texas' home games are against Wyoming, New Mexico, West Virginia, Baylor, Iowa State and TCU.

So unless you are one of the 100,000 people who will be at the game, you will probably be missing out — again.

The Network is consistently asking people to call their cable providers to request the Longhorn Network. But thus far, the network has only been detrimental to fans. It has made viewing games very difficult and helped in part to bring an end to one of the most famous rivalries in college sports as Texas A&M scurried to the SEC. It has also limited player access to media outlets and the public. It's hard to imagine that people will be calling and begging for something that

LHN continues on page 5B

# Brothers play together once again in Chicago

By Christian Corona

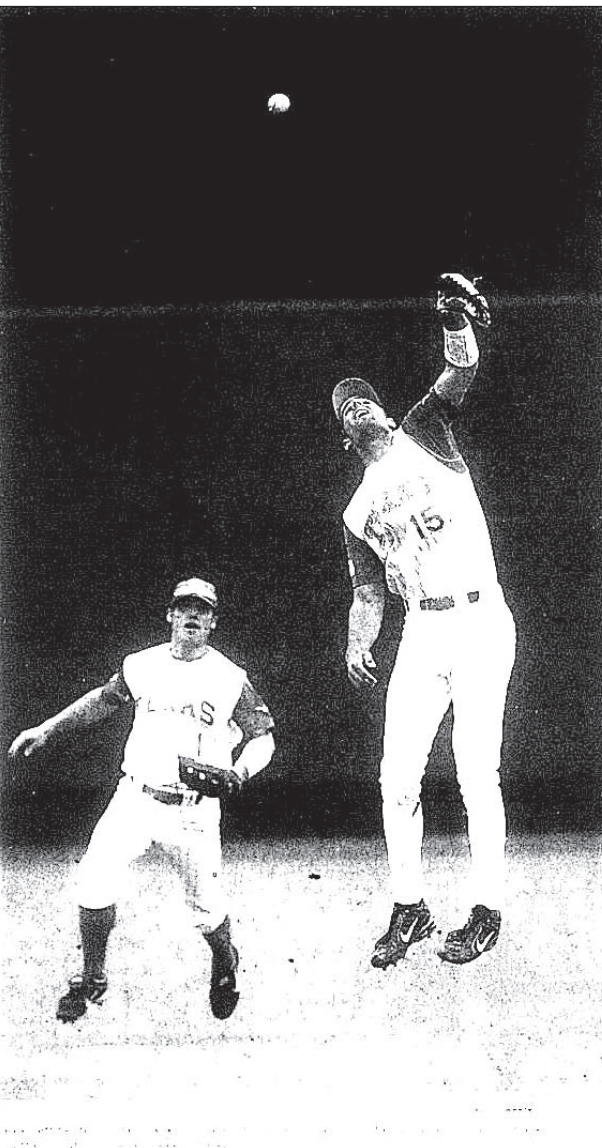
The next time John and Jordan Danks take the field together, it will be the first time they've done so since the 2003 5A state title game.

Once high school teammates, the Danks brothers are now in the same clubhouse once again, this time with the Chicago White Sox. Not including a handful of spring training games over the last few

years, they have not played together since their Round Rock team's 5-4 loss to Fort Bend Elkins in the state championship game nearly a decade ago.

Because of John undergoing season-ending shoulder surgery earlier this year, he and his little brother will not have the opportunity to play together in a meaningful game until next April. "You have to catch yourself

DANKS continues on page 5B



Jason Sweeten | Daily Texan file photo

Former Texas outfielder Jordan Danks (15) leaps for a ball during the 2007 season. Danks is hitting .333 with the White Sox in 201

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# DANKS

*continues from page 4B*

not taking it for granted,” John Danks said. “It’s rare to not only have two brothers in the big leagues but to have them playing on the same team. I have fun with it. I wish I was active and actually pitching while he was out there. Hopefully next year we can actually be in the same game together.”

John signed with the Texas Rangers, who took him with the No. 9 overall pick in the 2003 MLB Draft, while his younger brother went on to play three seasons with the Longhorns. In 161 career games at Texas, Jordan batted .324 with 13 home runs and 105 RBIs while drawing nearly as many walks (117) as the number of times he struck out (122).

“It’s funny because we still haven’t actually been able to play together yet because of his injury,” Jor-

dan Danks said. “I know it’s killing him to not get out there.”

In his first year in the big leagues, Jordan is hitting .333 with five RBIs and five runs scored in 20 games. Before being shut down for the season last week, John Danks was 3-4 with a 5.70 ERA in nine starts. He had three straight 10-win seasons from 2008 to 2010 before going 8-12 with a 4.33 ERA as the White Sox Opening Day starter last season.

Jordan is one of several former Longhorns playing in the big leagues, joining a group that includes Giants first baseman Brandon Belt, Padres All-Star closer Huston Street and Reds center fielder Drew Stubbs. They are just a few of the many top-notch prospects that Longhorns head coach Augie Garrido signs every year.

“He does have the

resources to bring in anyone he feels like he can get but the draft is also a threat,” Jordan Danks said. “He definitely signs really good players, like my brother, for example, he signed with Texas and ended up going pro. It’s hard signing the top players in the state and country that go in the draft and wonder what they’re going to do.”

Jordan is also part of the fourth pair of brothers to play together in White Sox history. But baseball is a business, and there is the chance that they’ll face each other someday.

“I don’t know what Mom would do,” John said of his mother, Renee.

What would happen if John hit Jordan?

“I’d probably charge the mound,” Jordan said.

Thankfully, for now, they don’t have to worry about that.

# TCU’s Pachall tested positive

FORT WORTH — TCU starting quarterback Casey Pachall admitted to police that he smoked marijuana and failed a drug test in February, two weeks before his roommate was arrested during a drug sting.

In an e-mailed statement to the Star-Telegram, TCU coach Gary Patterson said he was aware of Pachall testing positive Feb. 1.

“I have always taken a very strong stand on student-athlete health and welfare. We have policies and educational programs in place to help guide our student-athletes,” Patterson said in the statement. “We are committed to helping them make

healthy choices and have moved forward. We have had 25 drug tests in the last 18 months, including one by the NCAA at the Rose Bowl. We’ve had six drug tests since February.”

Melody McDonald, a spokeswoman for Tarrant County prosecutors, said last month that linebacker Brock, defensive tackle, D.J. Yendrey and offensive lineman Tyler Horn, all 21, had pleaded guilty. McDonald said the convictions would be cleared from their records if they complete probation, which is common for first-time offenders.

Brock got four years’ probation while Yendrey and Horn each got three years.

“Due to Casey being a student athlete at TCU I asked if they receive any drug test,” the report read. “Casey replied they do and that he failed their most recent one which was right after he had smoked marijuana last. Casey stated that he smoked marijuana maybe a day or two prior to the test.”

The report said that Pachall also stated that he used cocaine and ecstasy in the previous year, but said “Both were just a one-time thing and (he) hasn’t done either since.”

Pachall set school records with 2,921 passing yards and 228 completions as a sophomore last season.

— The Associated Press

# LHN

*continues from page 4B*

has had such a negative effect on Texas football thus far.

If it ever does become more readily available, it could become a positive addition to

the Texas football program. But until then, fans will continue to wait.


“The network’s taking a lot of time, much more than

we anticipated,” Texas head coach Mack Brown said last October.

I agree, Mack, it is taking a long time.

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# SO LONG SUMMER

Multimedia staff bids farewell to freedom as The Daily Texan finishes the summer session in preparation for the fall semester.



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A girl sits in an inner tube in Port Aransas.

Jorge Corona  
Daily Texan Staff



Andrew Torrey | Daily Texan Staff

Emmanuel Zapata and Doreen Balbuna take part in a bubble blowing flash mob on the South Congress bridge Saturday morning.



Marisa Vasquez | Daily Texan Staff

Emma Rodriguez, 10, pets animals in the petting zoo at the 6th Scoop Austin Ice Cream Festival at Fiesta Gardens Saturday afternoon.

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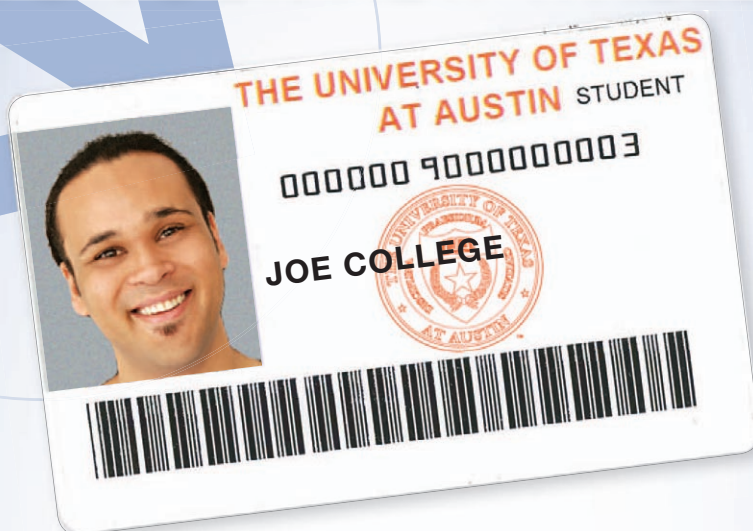
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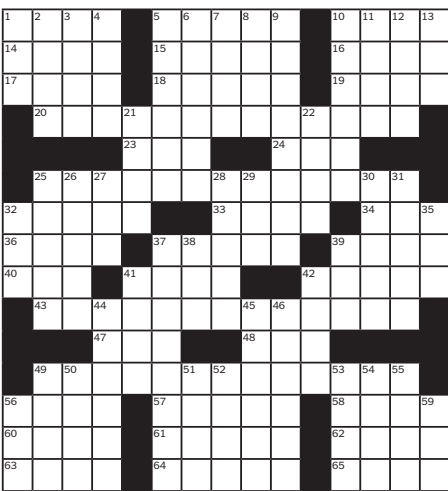
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  - 3 Like George W. vis-à-vis Jeb Bush
  - 4 Famous cookies
  - 5 Still's partner in comedy
  - 6 Plow pullers
  - 7 "Bye for now"
  - 8 Like George W. vis-à-vis Jeb Bush
  - 9 Backside
  - 10 French writer's apprehension by the police?
  - 11 1970s TV's "Ramsey"
  - 12 Tech company spun off from Time Warner
  - 13 French writer's state of drunkenness?
  - 14 Leafy vegetable
- DOWN**
- 1 Have a meal
  - 2 Dec. 25
  - 3 Tiniest bit of the Greek alphabet?
  - 4 Former St. Petersburg royal poetry
  - 5 Ovid's book of love poetry
  - 6 Choose
  - 7 Hunks of chewing tobacco
  - 8 Locale
  - 9 Gives an account
  - 10 Useless
  - 11 Germany, Italy and Japan, in W.W. II
  - 12 Cooped (up)
  - 13 Conclusion
  - 14 Sound of a heavy fall
  - 15 Womanizer
  - 16 Small lab container
  - 17 Where cowboys once sang "Oh, give me a home"
  - 18 Mork's birthplace, on TV
  - 19 Small, medium and large
  - 20 NNW's opposite
  - 21 Speechify
  - 22 Parties that might have glow-in-the-dark freebies
  - 23 Corn on the cob



Puzzle by Bernice Gordon

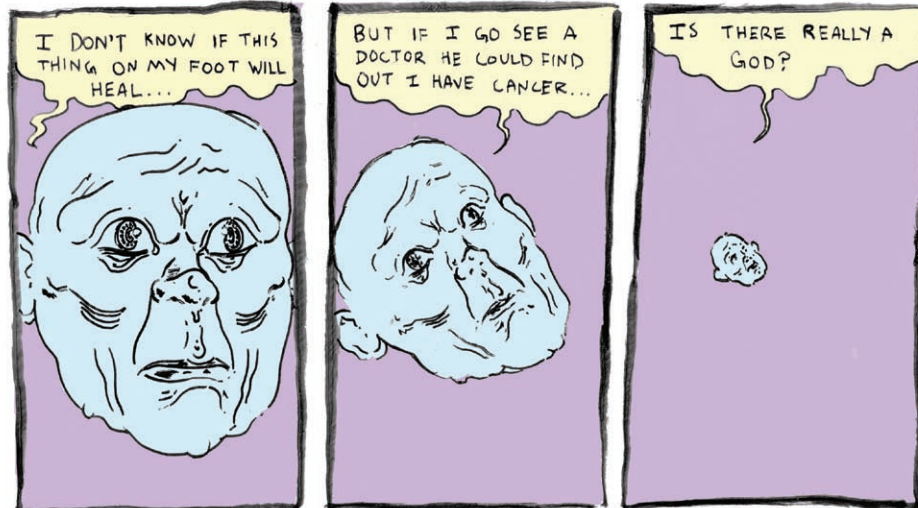
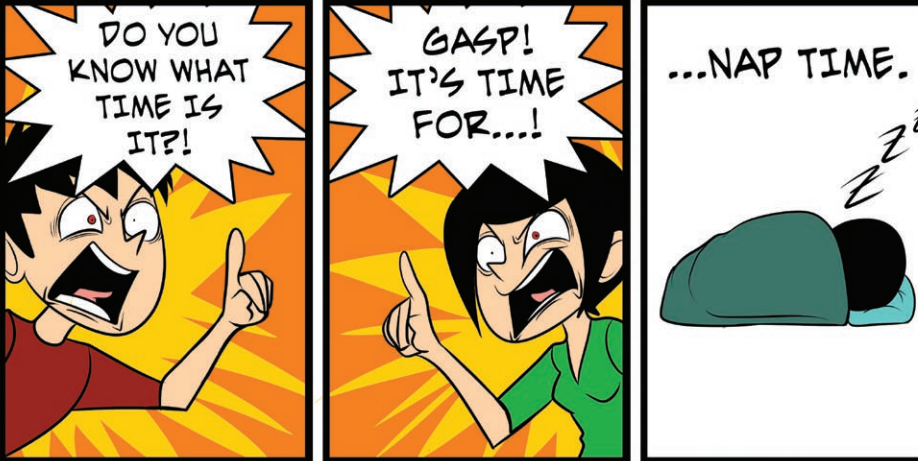
35 The "p" in r.p.m.  
37 It may be hit by a soprano  
38 Zoo animal that beats its chest  
39 90° turn  
41 "What thinking?"  
42 Actor John of "Sands of Iwo Jima"44 Run-scoring hit that puts the batter out  
45 Put in a secret language  
46 Humiliates  
49 Backside  
50 Jackson 5 hairdo  
51 Blunders  
52 Caribbean and Mediterranean  
53 Finger's tip  
54 Concerning, on a memo  
55 Flight board postings, for short  
56 MetLife Stadium footballer  
59 Figs. for geniuses

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3	9	4	7					2
7			2		8	4		
		7		5				9
9	6		1		7		8	4
8				3		7		
	8	2			3			5
5					8	2	3	7

Yesterday's solution

6	9	1	5	4	3	2	7	8
8	2	3	9	7	1	5	6	4
7	5	4	2	8	6	9	1	3
1	7	9	3	5	8	4	2	6
5	6	8	1	2	4	3	9	7
3	4	2	6	9	7	8	5	1
2	1	7	4	3	9	6	8	5
4	8	5	7	6	2	1	3	9
9	3	6	8	1	5	7	4	2

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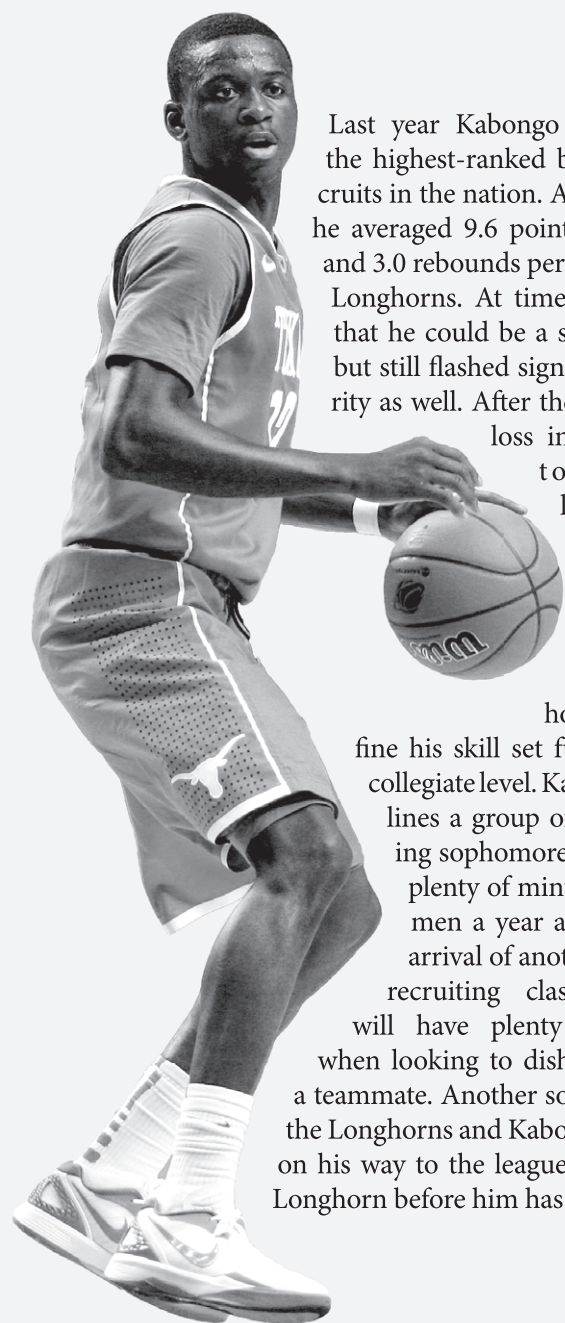


# Names you should know: 4 Horns to watch

By Nitya Duran

*The fall semester is less than a month away, and with it comes a new college athletic season. Here is a list of five Texas players that are somewhat under the radar and are primed for breakout. Be sure to keep an eye out for them this fall.*

## MYCK KABONGO BASKETBALL



Last year Kabongo was one of the highest-ranked basketball recruits in the nation. As a freshman he averaged 9.6 points, 5.2 assists and 3.0 rebounds per game for the Longhorns. At times he showed that he could be a special player but still flashed signs of immaturity as well. After the Longhorns' loss in the NCAA tournament last March, he decided to skip the NBA draft for at least another year, hoping to refine his skill set further at the collegiate level. Kabongo headlines a group of five returning sophomores that logged plenty of minutes as freshmen a year ago. With the arrival of another heralded recruiting class, Kabongo will have plenty of options when looking to dish the rock to a teammate. Another solid year with the Longhorns and Kabongo could be on his way to the league like many a Longhorn before him has done.

## JORDAN SPIETH GOLF

Spieth is not under the radar by any means in the golf world, but not many know of his accomplishments outside of those who follow the sport closely. He's already made his mark at Texas and was the only freshman on the Longhorns team that captured the NCAA Golf Championship in early June. In 12 events in 2011, Spieth led the Longhorns with a 70.92 stroke average as well as a final round scoring average of 70.83. Since then Spieth has participated in the U.S. Open, the AT&T National, the John Deere Classic and the Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational on the PGA Tour via sponsors' exemptions. His ability to consistently hit fairways coupled with an innate putting stroke are just two reasons he is perhaps the best golfer to ever attend Texas. He's still young, 19-years-old in fact, but he's already shown he can become one of the world's best. With Spieth leading the way, Texas has a good chance of repeating as NCAA Champions.



## BROOKE GILBERT SOCCER

As a freshman Gilbert was one of two Longhorns to start all 21 games last season, earning her a spot on the Big 12 All-Newcomer Team. She only scored one goal last season on 11 shot attempts, but that goal was a game-winner. She played alongside U.S. Women's National Team members Hope Solo and Stephanie Cox this summer, which has made her stronger and more prepared for her second season with the Longhorns. Gilbert also played for Seattle Sounders FC this summer and will look to parlay her experience with the team into success on the field for Texas.



## SARA HATTIS VOLLEYBALL

Hattis is the latest in an increasingly long line of excellent recruits brought to Texas by head coach Jerritt Elliott. As a senior at Cleveland High in Rio Rancho, N.M., she totaled 289 kills with a .485 hitting percentage. She was the No. 9 ranked recruit in the nation and was actually a better basketball prospect coming out of high school. She has since fully devoted her time to volleyball training and looks to make an immediate impact for Elliott's Longhorns. Hattis stands at a tall 6-foot-4 at the middle blocker position, so expect to see lots of dominant play from her from the center of the court this fall.



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## ROOKIE MISTAKES

By Laura Wright

*The Top 10 mistakes you'll make your freshman year of college (and how to recover from them)*

**1**  
**Misunderstanding the phrase "YOLO" as it relates to your partying schedule**

It's true: you only live once. However, there are two lines of argument that follow: YOLO, so go hard while you can; and YOLO, so, make it long and prosperous. I suggest not following the former line of reasoning every single weekend (try it out only on the ones with the best parties.)

**2**  
**Thinking that Restaurant on the Drag is capital-G Great**

There's a tendency while living in a dorm to think that any food not served on beige cafeteria flatware is, like, seriously the best food ever. Unfortunately, it's not. If you find yourself fawning over an establishment that does little more than assemble ingredients you could assemble at home yourself, you might have fallen into this trap.

**3**  
**Forgetting that Bevo Bucks are Made of Real Dollars**

Once a beloved mascot throws his horns behind an almost-currency, it's easy to forget that those \$300 in your account are tantamount to, well, 300 real dollars. Just like \$300 in cash, once they're gone, they're gone. Don't let that not-so-great restaurant on the Drag suck them all up by September.

**4**  
**Thinking the PCL is the only library on campus**

The PCL is not the only library on campus: It's just the only one that looks and feels most like a prison complex. Recognize that you can crowd the tables with your studying at these alternatives: the Life Science Library, the Architecture Library and the Fine Arts Library.



**5**  
**Getting lost in RLM**

Let me help you out here: If it seems like the elevators don't even go to that floor, then they don't. Take the escalators instead.

**6**  
**Being crushed when the friends you met at orientation aren't the friends you keep**

You spent a glorious three days talking about high school and dissing Jester. You shared fries in the PCL and rolled your eyes at the pop culture references in the orientation programming. You even have the same major! And yet, the friend you made at orientation is nowhere to be found come fall. Never fear: Just like in high school,

college friends can cycle, and as the friends of convenience you met at orientation cycle out, new friends (no doubt more lasting ones) will cycle in.

**7**  
**Thinking you have to have sex/ not have sex/worrying about anything related to sex in college besides having it safely and with someone who treats you well**

Pro-tip: The Student Health Services Center offers free condoms (and don't worry, no one will give you a weird look for taking them). And if you're wondering how to judge if a person "treats you well," I suggest you ask yourself the following question: If I were to sleep with this person, would he/she make me an omelet the following morning? If the answer is no, calmly remove your pants from their floor and say "adios."

**8**  
**Clinging to high school, through a relationship, a letter jacket or relentlessly re-watching videos of your high school band**

Nobody wants to hear about that time in band or how you won the election for student body president.

MISTAKES continues on page 11B

Illustration by Colin Zelinsky

## TOP MOVIE THEATERS

*Editor's note: Our film critic has spent hours in Austin's numerous movie theaters for review screenings, live events and festivals. The following are his picks for the city's best theaters.*

By Alex Williams

### PARAMOUNT THEATRE

713 Congress Avenue

The Paramount is one of the oldest theaters in Austin, and the sheer amount of history in the 1,300-seat theater never fails to impress. Events like South By Southwest and Austin Film Festival frequently choose the Paramount for their showcase exhibitions, and the theater also hosts an annual summer movie series that's packed with iconic classics and underappreciated gems.

### VIOLET CROWN

434 West Second Street

Violet Crown is fairly new to Austin, having been open just over a year. Even so, the theater is a frequent exhibitor of art house cinema and a reliable source of films that stray far from the beaten path. The Crown is also notorious for its insanely comfortable seating, and the theater's artsy aesthetic, trendy downtown setting and eclectic programming make it an essential date location. Major bonus: free valet parking with ticket purchase.

### ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE

Alamo Drafthouse: One of the signature Austin movie chains, its mixture of food, beer and great movies has left a definitive footprint on the developing Austin movie scene. CEO Tim League has always been looking for ways to bring new and exciting films to audiences (along with weekly screenings of classic films), and the company's newly founded distribution wing, Drafthouse Films, has been putting some interesting, quality films on screens across the country. There are nearly half a dozen Drafthouses in Austin, but the best location is on South Lamar (1120 South Lamar Boulevard), where Fantastic Fest is held annually, and the newly constructed Slaughter Lane (5701 West Slaughter Lane) location is a marvel, both for its creative design and its custom-made cocktail lounge.

### BOB BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM IMAX THEATRE

1800 North Congress Avenue

The most impressive theater in Austin is easily the Bob Bullock, which boasts the city's only genuine IMAX screen and is also only a short walk from campus. The exhibition is consistently flawless, and visual features like "Prometheus" and "The Dark Knight Rises" can only benefit from being blown up to such a massive scale.

## Safety wheels: Road rules apply to cyclists

By Jorge Corona

It's not hard to find evidence of the vast and thriving bike culture in Austin. One look at any campus bike rack and you'll know — cycling is a pretty big thing around here. Hold your horses, though (or your bikes for that matter). Even if you've been riding your bike since the second grade (or if you're like me and didn't learn to ride until the sixth grade), riding in Austin will be a learning experience all over again.

### First of all: Get a u-lock.

Lots of bikes means lots of bike theft, and unless you want a new \$500 bike every semester, lock 'er

up. Chain locks are easier to clip open, but a u-lock around the frame and the front tire is a formidable contender. Now if you add a chain lock securing the rest of your bike, you're as safe as can be.

### Second lesson: Stay off of the sidewalks.

UT completely outlaws biking on the sidewalks, so unless you're coming in from or about to merge into a road or unless you don't care about those costly tickets, stick to the asphalt. A lot of bike "accidents" (an accident is something that cannot be prevented, and this can be) happen on the sidewalks, when a rider fails to maneuver around pedestrians or obstacles properly. The

irony here is that most of us try to ride on the sidewalks for the sake of safety when clearly this sense of security is fabricated. Sidewalks are designed for slow foot traffic, not zippy cyclists. The city also forbids riding on the sidewalk, enforced especially around the downtown area. City tickets are usually pricier, too. Just saying.

### Third: Use the road.

And I'm not talking about the Viggo Mortensen movie about apocalyptic times. I'm talking about that paved path on which cars zoom by. In Austin, bikes are vehicles, and therefore they



Illustration by Tiffany Dang

BIKE continues on page 11B



# Spray paint still beckons '80s graffiti artists into middle age

**By Bonny Ghosh**  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — In torn jeans and saddled with a black backpack, Andrew Witten glances up and down the street for police. The 51-year-old then whips out a black marker scribbles “Zephyr” on a wall covered with movie posters. He admires his work for a few seconds before his tattooed arms reach for his

daughter, holding her hand as he briskly walks away.

Witten and a generation of urban latchkey kids who spray-painted their initials all over Manhattan in the 1970s and '80s and landed in the city's street art scene are coming of age — middle age, that is.

And like Witten, a 51-year-old single father, some street artists considered now to be graffiti elders are having trouble putting

away their spray paint cans. As Witten says, “I’m ready. I could go tonight.”

“I’m chronologically old to be out there doing it,” Witten admits with a playful smile. “I’m sure I can’t run quite as fast.”

Witten built a reputation as a master at spray-painting extravagant graffiti pieces on freight and subway trains, called train-bombing, in the neighborhoods where he now teaches his 6-year-

old daughter, Lulu, to skateboard. For him, spray-painting other people’s property with his nickname, or tag, is almost an addiction, and danger is part of the drug. Crawling under barbed wire, ducking from police officers, even being shot at is all part of the experience.

But with an artist’s heart, Witten describes painting graffiti in more poetic terms. He calls it a freeing experience, in which the silence of night gives way to the hiss and mist of the spray rising into the moonlight.

Angel Ortiz recently served 41 days of a 50-day sentence in the Rikers Island jail system after being busted for spraying his tag, LA Roc, on a billboard in March of last year. For decades, Ortiz, 45, has been known on Manhattan’s Lower East Side as LA II. A traumatic loss of a girlfriend brought him out of a 14-year hiatus from graffiti writing. He has since been caught three times spraying his tag on property, each time while walking a friend’s dog.

“Everywhere that dog stopped to pee I would write my name,” Ortiz says. “The streets were like my canvases. I just started writing my name everywhere.”

When a pair of police officers smelled the fresh paint and nabbed Ortiz, they asked whether he saw himself as too old to be doing graffiti. But even now, Ortiz keeps a spray can or marker in his pocket to satisfy that incessant itch to tag mailboxes, signs and fire hydrants.

Ortiz often recalls those golden days in the '80s, when graffiti became the focal point of the counter-culture art world and he partied with Madonna and Andy Warhol. He still lives in the neighborhood where a young art school dropout named Keith Haring showed up at his doorstep in cutoff jeans and glasses asking about his tagging style.

Grffiti documentarian and photographer Henry Chalfant looks back at Ortiz’s heyday as a revolutionary time period in street art.

“The culture is gone really,”

Chalfant says. “The culture that was alive in the '70s and '80s doesn’t exist anymore.”

Artists gleaned the raw style off street kids, while tunnel-hopping graffiti writers honed in on their artistic abilities to be commercially successful. It was a time when graffiti tagging exploded into battles over the artists who could produce the most visually edgy, elaborate murals in the most dangerous, inaccessible places without getting caught.

Chalfant says change came when the Metropolitan Transportation Authority took over the New York regional train system and manufacturers started to build paint-resistant trains. Police also aggressively cracked down on graffiti in the '80s and '90s.

“The whole scene has evolved to something beyond just writing your name,” Chalfant points out. “Artists are making comments about culture, about society. It’s a personal vision of an artist.”

Ortiz now spends his days painting, peddling his art to galleries and buyers. He never quite rose to the level of fame as some of his graffiti counterparts, and the appetite for graffiti art has diminished in the U.S. art world.

Long past Haring’s death, Ortiz claims he rarely gets credit for the collaborations he and Haring did together, although his LA Roc tags are displayed on numerous Haring pieces.

Witten’s brush with fame now often comes with his freelance art writing and his sporadic visits to his daughter’s school, where he teaches her classmates how to draw. Lulu knows her father draws “crazy art,” a term she picked up from seeing graffiti on trains.

From time to time, the thought of spending a few hours in a deserted freight yard still crosses Witten’s mind. Taking into consideration his daughter, he won’t admit if he still train-bombs. But he won’t say he doesn’t, either.

“I’ll decide when I’m too old,” he says. “Fortunately, there’s no forced retirement in graffiti.”



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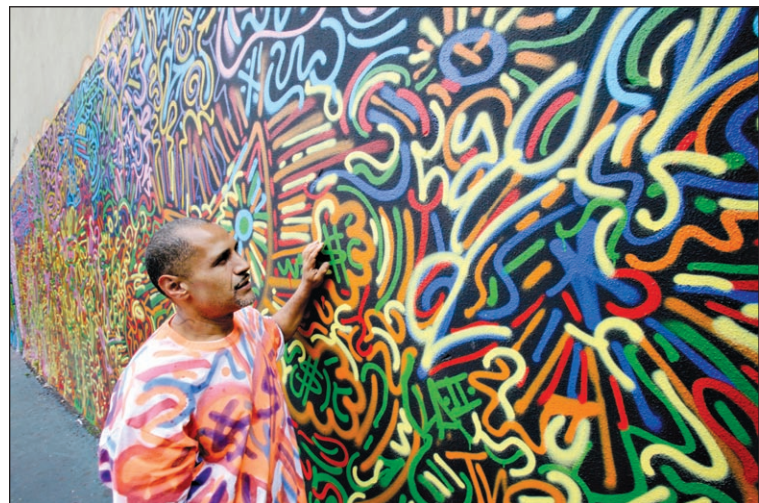
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**Richard Drew** | Associated Press

Grffiti artist Angel “LA II” Ortiz, 45, poses for photos with one of his creations, in a schoolyard on New York’s Lower East Side. A number of New York’s graffiti artists of the 1970s and '80s still have the urge to tag.

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# POP INDEX

SUMMER 2012 EDITION

BY ALEKSANDER CHAN

## HORNS UP

**R.I.P. Gore Vidal and Nora Ephron.** Writers with impeccable talent and venerable careers.



**Frank Ocean's Channel Orange and Japandroids' Celebration Rock.**



**Sutton Foster on "Bunheads."** Yes, the show about teen ballet dancers. But she's hilarious!



**Olympics-inspired self-loathing.** You look at them, you look at yourself and then you're just sad.



**Aaron Sorkin's "The Newsroom."** It's like being bludgeoned every week by sanctimony and poorly-written female characters.



**Holy hell, it's hot.** Like you sweat-through-your-shirt-walking-from-the-South-Mall-to-the-West-Mall-hot.



**Watching Olympians' parents.** Michael Phelps' mother in the stands is delightful.



**Blockbusters in IMAX.** From "Prometheus" to "The Dark Knight Rises," this summer's popcorn flicks did really big moments really well.



**No Doubt's "Settle Down."** Their first single in 10 years sounds ... like the songs they made 10 years ago.



**Katie Holmes' prison break.**



**Jonah Lehrer, plagiarist.** Dude. You made up Bob Dylan quotes from your bestselling book and thought no one would figure it out?



**The most politically charged sandwich ever.**

## HORNS DOWN

## BIKE *continues from page 9B*

have the same rights as any other vehicle on the road. By law, you must ride as far to the right as is "practicable" (or left if you're on a one-way street). But here's the kicker: you can take up the whole lane if it is less than 14 feet wide. Have you ever measured 14 feet? That's a lot of feet. That's around two Yao Mings lying perpendicular to the road, and some change. This also gives you room to maneuver in case of obstacles.

Plus, cars usually prefer that you take up a whole lane, too. Imagine yourself in the driver's seat. Sure, you have to slow down behind a biker and pass them using the adjoining lane, but what's less nerve-racking: passing lanes or trying to share the same lane without hitting the biker? Take advantage of bike lanes, too, but you're not required by law to ride in them. If there are any hazards on the bike lane (gravel, potholes) or if there are parked cars right next to it, you should merge onto the right lane of regular traffic as long as necessary. Don't ride less than three feet away from parked cars, either. You could be surprised by a door opening.

### Fourth: Make yourself visible.

In defensive cycling (yes, there is such a thing), predictability in your cycling and maximum visibility is stressed — and with good reason. If you're turning or merging right, scan the road behind you for cars, hold your right arm out to your right side, scan again and make eye contact with the driver; once they yield, proceed

with your action. For left, do the same with your left arm or point your right hand straight up. For slowing down, hold your arm abreast and your hand down so that the car behind you can see your whole palm. The law requires you to have a front light and either a red light or reflector on the rear that can be seen from at least 500 feet away. This makes riding at dusk and night much more comfortable.

### Fifth: Follow traffic signs.

Since bicycles have the same rights as other vehicles, they also have to adhere to the same traffic laws. That translates into stopping at lights, signaling when needed, not riding in between cars and, among other things, making complete stops at stop signs — making yourself predictable to other drivers. No matter how slow a speed you brake into, or how steep the hill after the stop sign is, if you don't stop at a stop sign you can get a painful traffic ticket. Beware!

### Lastly, check your bike daily.

The best way to avoid an accident is to make sure that your cycle is in tip-top condition. Check the air on your tires, check your brakes and check your chain before every ride. Do maintenance as often as possible. It should become second nature. Note that helmets are not mandated by law if you're 18 and over, but they are unbeatable protection in case of a collision.

**Welcome to the bicyclub.  
Ride on.**

## MISTAKES *continues from page 9B*

back in 2011. Instead, put the letter jacket away and press pause on the DVD. Step outside your dorm room and recognize that you are playing on a new field, one in which your previous mistakes and

achievements are wiped from the record. Proceed.

9

### Not Backing Up Your Computer

You're probably thinking: amateur mistake. I'm not that dumb. And yet, nine out of 10 of you will find yourself holding your head in your hands this finals season, composing a please-don't-fail-me e-mail to the professor who's expecting a paper that just blinked into nonexistence.

10

### Thinking You Have to Be Best Friends with Your Roommate or Roommates with Your Best Friend

Sometimes, the best thing a roommate can be to you is a good roommate: Someone who cleans their side of the room and respects the shared space. If you have siblings, I ask you to remember how often you "respected their space," versus how often you took their spot on the couch when they went to the bathroom for no reason other than the pleasure of seeing their annoyance. You'd probably say that you did the latter more often, and for that reason living with someone who's "like a sibling" to you should probably be avoided.

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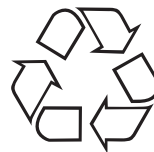
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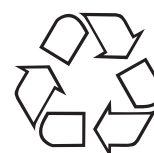
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